VOL. 5
STORY AND ART BY
KIA ASAMIYA
NDO-4228

Steam-Punk Mysteries

The place is Steam City, a mixture of London and Tokyo's Asakusa district, and boy detective Narutaki is gaining quite a reputation as he solves the myriad of mysteries that come to his door.

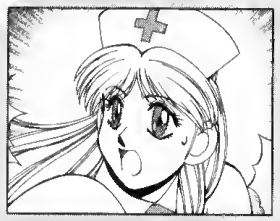
In his first case, the evil Phantom Knight tricks beautiful nurse Ling Ling and her *megamaton* robot Goriki into luring Narutaki into a trap. After the defeat of the Phantom Knight, Ling Ling and Goriki ask to join Narutaki and his butler Kawakubo in the Narutaki Detective Agency, and together they form the Steam Detectives.

But their work is just beginning and the agency finds itself opposed by a dizzying array of villians including not only the Phantom Knight but the machine fetishist, Machine Baron; Dr. Guilty and his destructive Shadow Bolt *megamatons*; Ling Ling's evil opposite Lang Lang abetted by the boy criminal Le Bread; the literary villian come-to-life Steam King; vigilante killer Don Death; and the ingenious cat-burglar the Red Scorpion.

Since Narutaki and his friends solve every case with which they are presented, they have gained a good reputation throughout Steam City. But that means that defeating the boy detective leads to fame, and this lure is too much for the unhinged criminal element to resist!

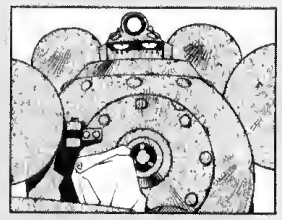
Narutaki

Son of the greatest detective in the history of Steam City, his parents' murder has left him with only his butler's help in his quest to follow in his father's footsteps.



Ling Ling

It is known that the beautiful nurse Ling Ling's father is the great scientist Dr. Hsu and Lang Lang is her sister, but her past is still a mystery.



Goriki

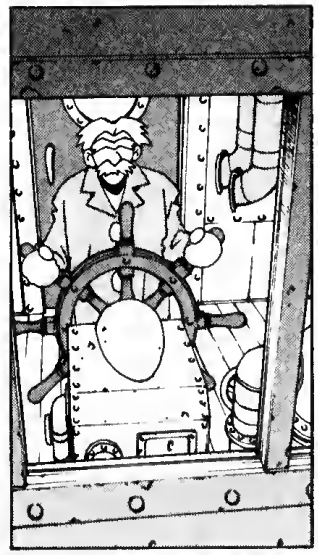
A steam-powered *megamaton* robot that is fiercely loyal to Ling Ling. Somewhere inside its body is the brain of Dr. Hsu.

Kawakubo

Narutaki's loyal butler and a man of many resources.

CASE 13, PART 1

BLACK TRRP! THE PERILS OF LING LING!!



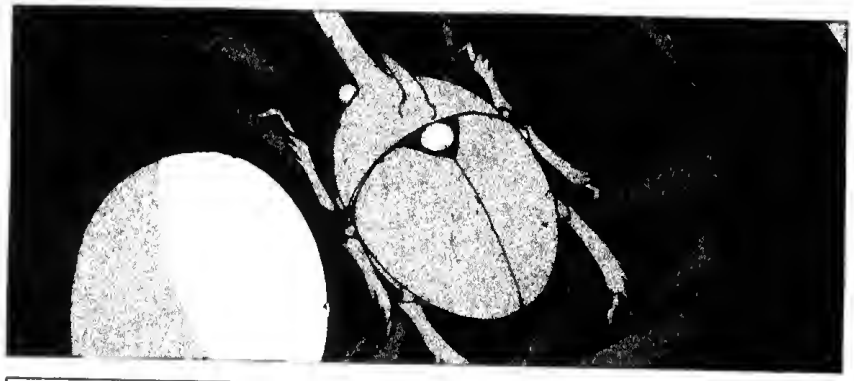
CASE 13, PART 1

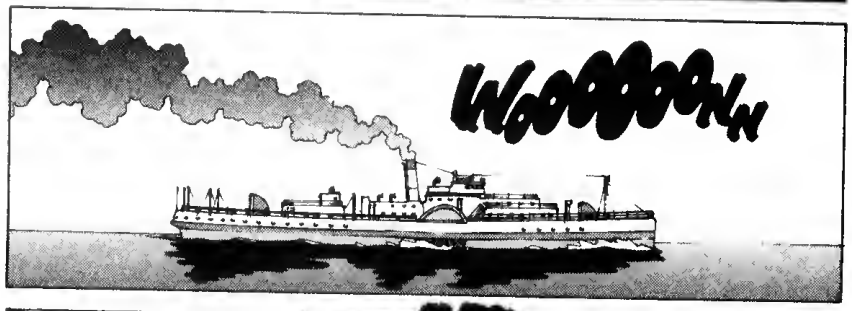
BLACH TRAP! THE PERILS OF LING LING!!

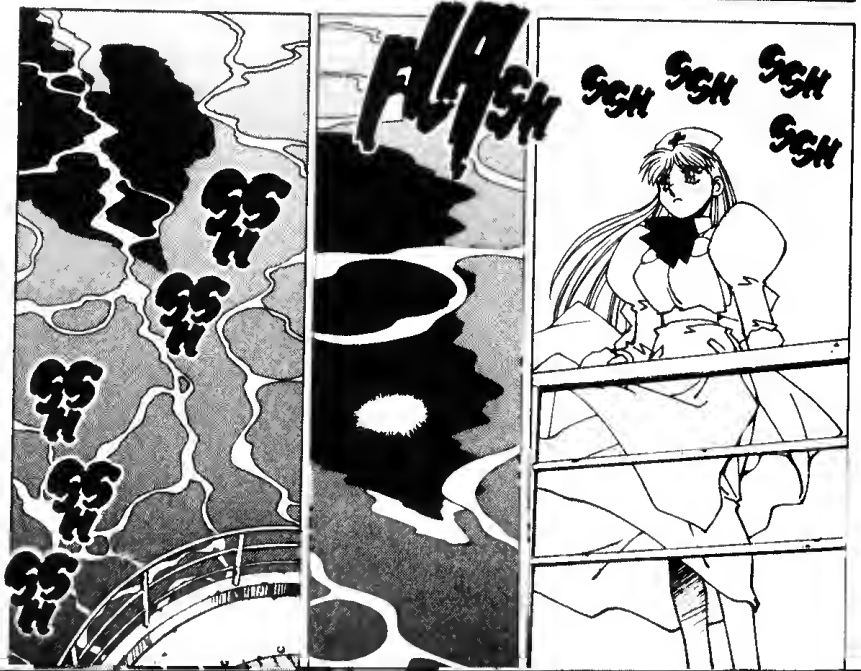
HOT FROM THE OVEN!
LING LING'S HOUSE SPECIAL: APPLE PIE.
TRY SOME!
THANKS, LING LING.
MM!
MNCH
WELL ??
IT'S DELICI-OUS!
THANK GOOD-NESS!
HM?

ANOTHER SHIPPING ACCI-DENT ?
STEAM DA
RROR AT SEA
IT'S THE FOURTH ONE THIS MONTH. FORTUN-ATELY, NO ONE'S BEEN KILLED.
SURVIVORS CLAIMED THEIR SHIP WAS ATTACKED BY A WHALE.
BUT WHALES NEVER COME THIS CLOSE TO A BUSY HARBOR.
SIR, DETECTIVE YAGAMI HAS COME TO CALL.
SHOW HIM IN.
LOOK, NARUTAKI, I NEED YOU TO ASSIST US IN OUR INVESTIGATION OF THESE SUNKEN SHIPS.
ME?
I GET THE FEELING THESE ACCIDENTS WEREN'T ACCIDENTS.
WILL YOU HELP?
I'LL HELP HOWEVER I CAN. WHEN DO YOU BEGIN YOUR INVESTI-GATION?
IN TWO DAYS.
!

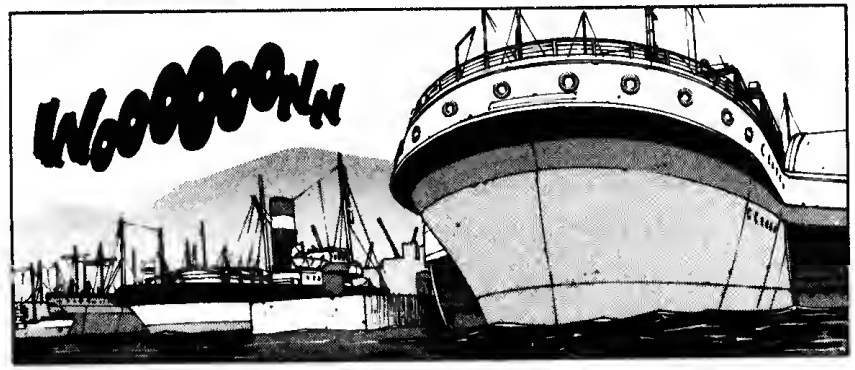
LONG BEFORE I BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH NARUTAKI, I LIVED WITH MY FAMILY IN MY FATHER'S LABORATORY. IT WAS ON A SMALL ISLAND IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ARCHIPELEGO.
BUT THE AGING LABORATORY WAS FALLING APART, SO IT WAS SOLD TO A REALTOR, AND IT WAS MY JOB TO COLLECT OUR BAGGAGE.
NARUTAKI INSISTED THAT WE STAY WITH HIM. THAT WAS A GREAT INCENTIVE.
HIS EXACT WORDS WERE, "WHY DON'T YOU MOVE INTO THE AGENCY BUILDING OFFICIALLY?"
THE TWO OR THREE DAYS IT WOULD TAKE TO PACK WOULD BE LIKE A SHORT VACATION.
WOOO




WOOOOOOHN


FLASH
SSH
SSH
SSH
SSH
SSH
SSH
SSH
SSH
SSH

I HAVEN'T BEEN HOME IN SO LONG.
BUT...
...IT'LL BE HARD TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO THAT HOUSE.
PERHAPS I CAN GATHER UP THE MEMORIES OF FATHER, MOTHER, MY SISTER...
SSH
SSH
SSH
...AND BRING THEM BACK WITH ME.

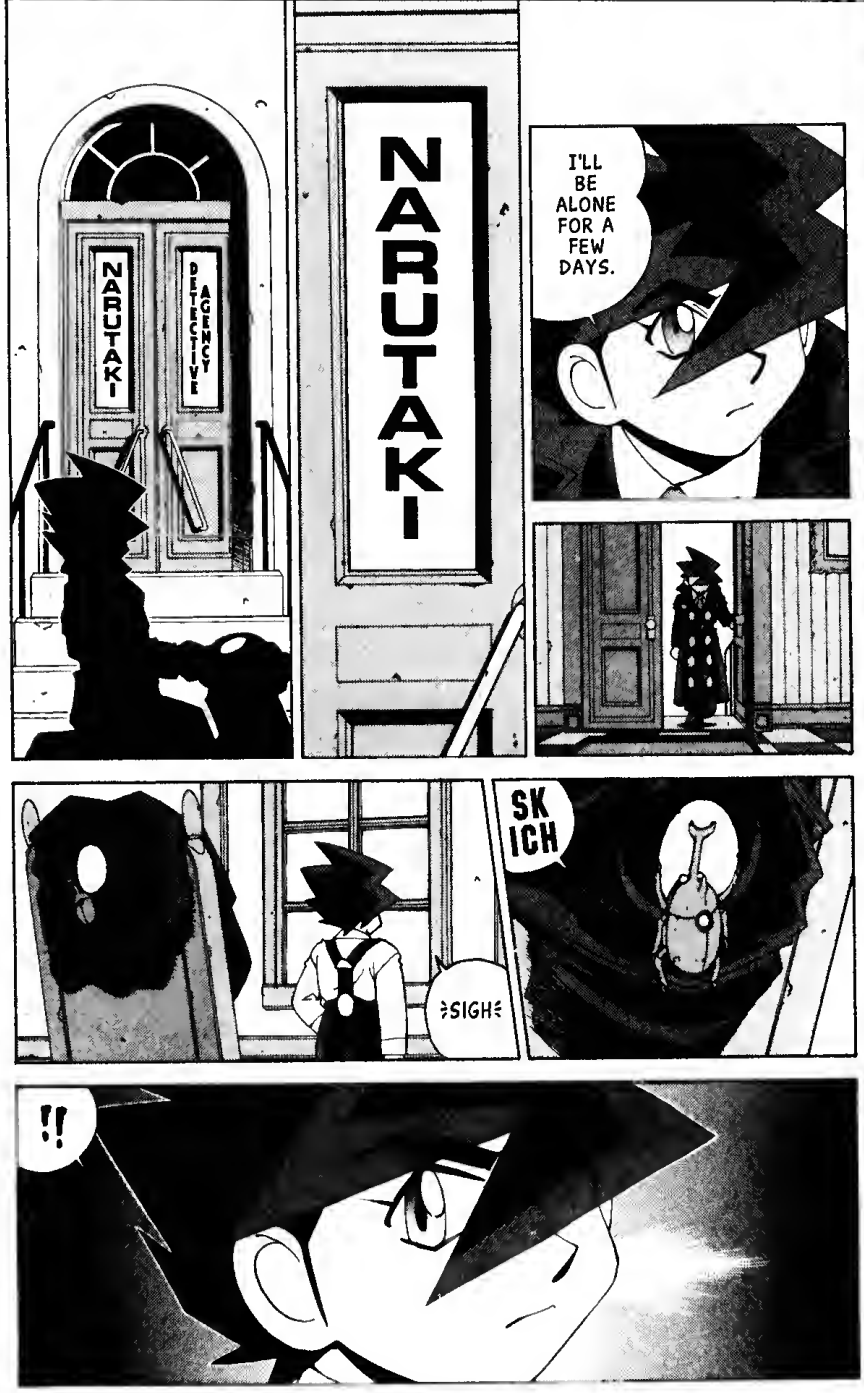

WOOOOOOHN

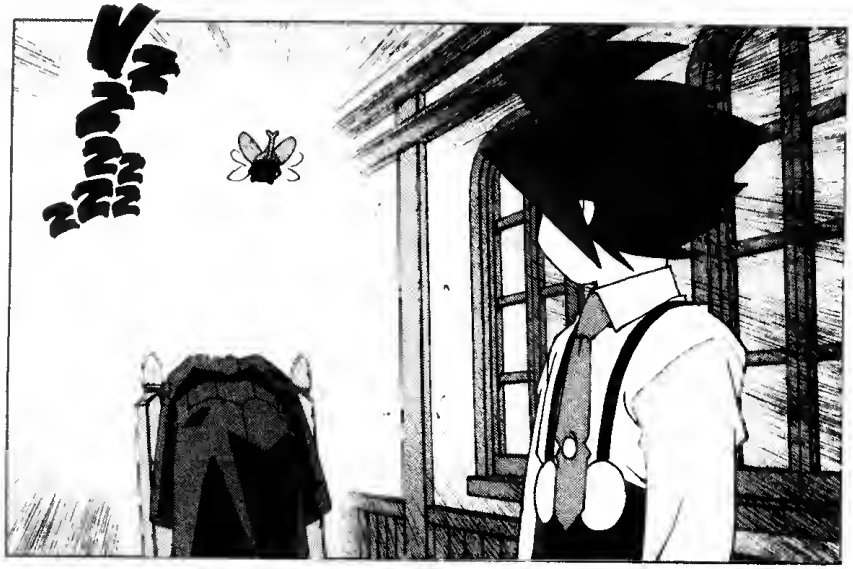
HERE IS WHERE WE TRANSFER TO THE LAUNCH SHIP.
YES.
RR
KANCHA KANCHA

IMPERIAL HOSPITAL No.7
741
NO VISITORS ALLOWED
A LIGHT...
A WHITE... LIGHT...
LIGHT...
.....
THE SAME WORDS ?
YES. HE KEEPS REPEATING THEM OVER AND OVER.
A WHITE LIGHT... ??

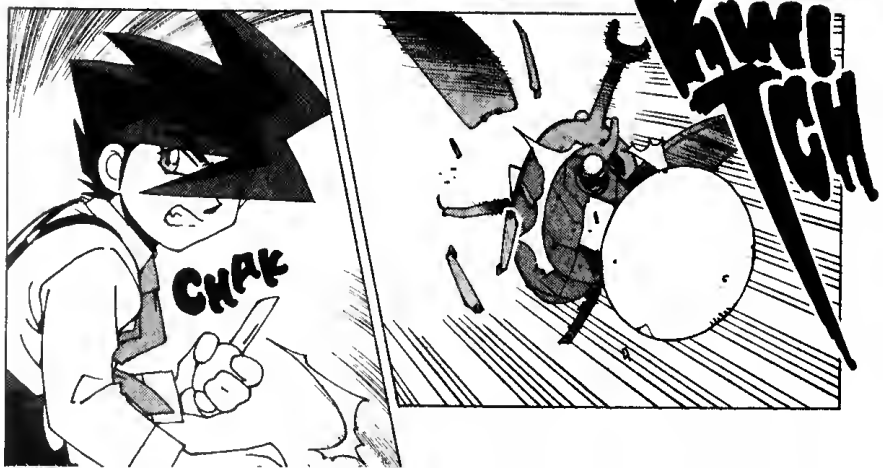
THE PAPER CLAIMED IT WAS A WHALE. I'M NOT SO SURE.
WHY IS THAT?
A WHALE'S EYES DON'T GIVE OFF LIGHT.
WHY DON'T WE GO TO THE FORENSICS LAB? THEY SHOULD HAVE SOME RESULTS BY NOW.
ALL RIGHT.
.....
IT'S AMAZING... IT'S BEEN BLOWN TO BITS.
IF SO, THERE WERE NO TRACES OF GUN POWDER OR ANY OTHER EXPLOSIVE.
TAK

THE ENTIRE SHIP WAS PLACED UNDER SOME GREAT PRESSURE...
...AND IN AN INSTANT, IT WAS SMASHED TO PIECES...
GREAT PRES-SURE IN AN INSTANT ?
LET'S THINK THIS THROUGH.
.....
I'M SORRY TO ASK THIS, BUT COULD YOU CONCENTRATE ALL YOUR EFFORTS ON THIS EXAMIN-ATION?
IF YOU FIND TRACES OF PAINT OR METAL THAT AREN'T FROM THE SHIP, PLEASE CONTACT ME IMMEDI-ATELY.
OF COURSE.


NARUTAKI
NARUTAKI DETECTIVE AGENCY
I'LL BE ALONE FOR A FEW DAYS.
SIGH
SK ICH
!!


NNNN

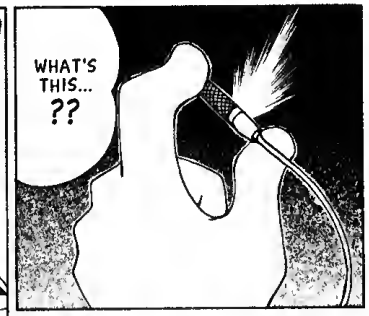
FLA SH
!!

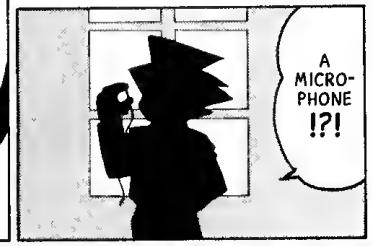

CHAK
KWI TCH

KA-BLA
A MMM
YAA AAH!

KA KKA
KA KKA

SO IT WAS A MACHINE...


WHAT'S THIS... ??

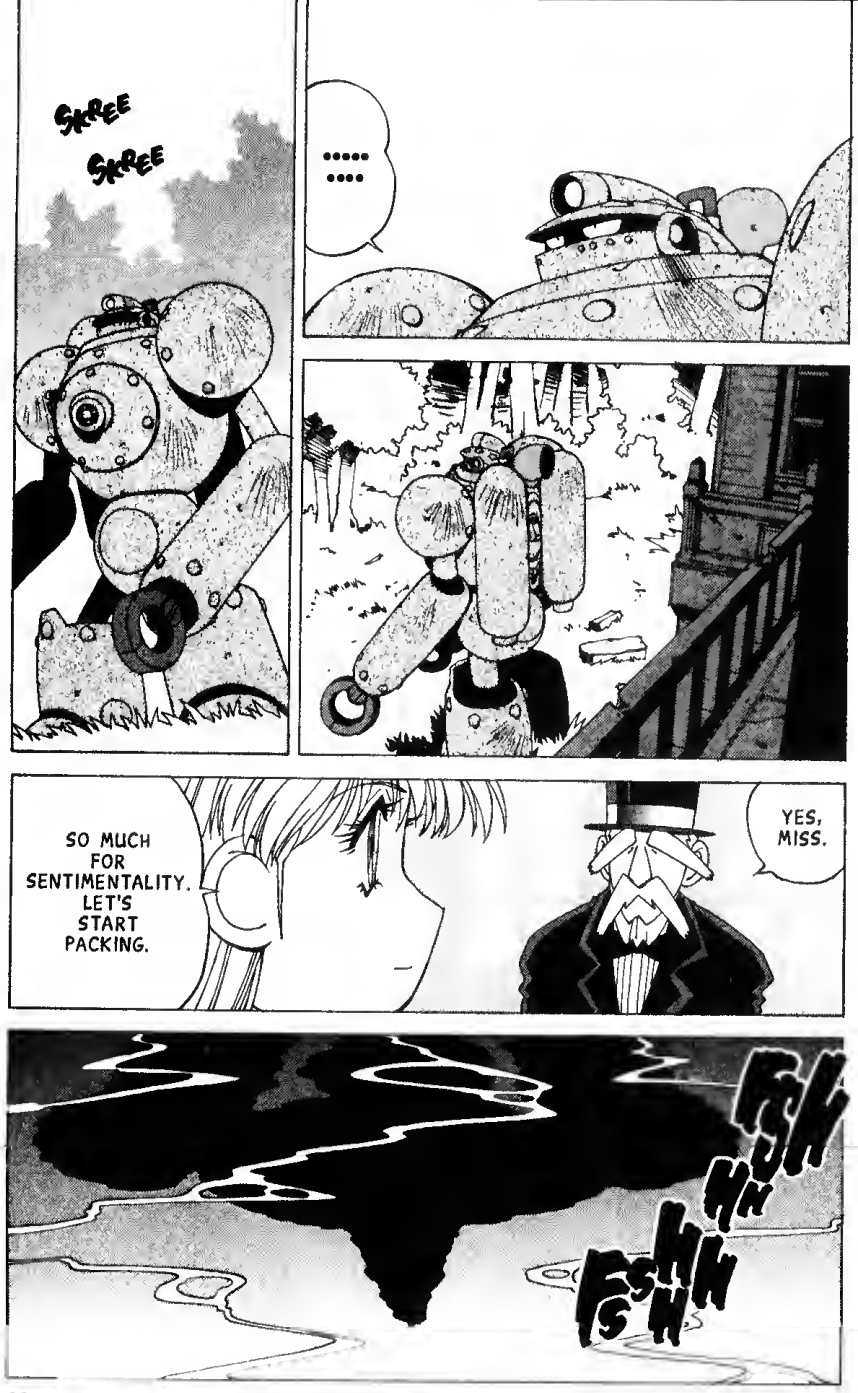

A MICRO-PHONE !?!

OH, NO!! THEY'VE HEARD EVERY-THING!!
SO THE ONE BEHIND THIS IS...
FWOO SH

DAMN, NARU-TAKI FOUND IT...
WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER. MY PREY IS ALREADY NEAR.
GWOO
GWOO
GWOO
GWOO
GO, SHADOW BOLT No. 3!! DO IT FOR DR. GUILTY!! THIS TIME I SHALL SUCCEED!!

FSSSHH
FSSSHH
FSSSHH
FSSSHH
SKREE
SKREE
IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME...

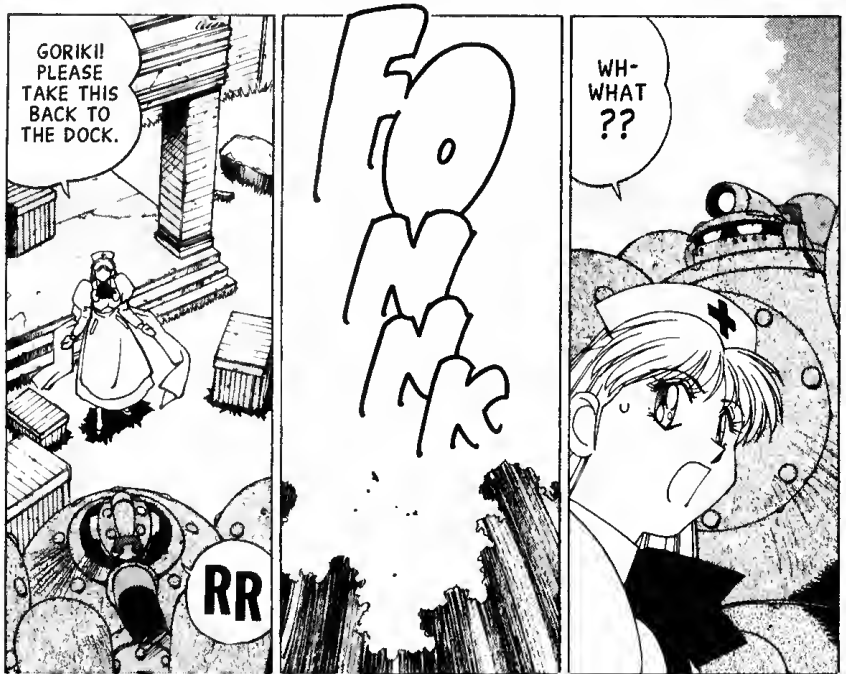
.....


SKREE
SKREE
.....
....
SO MUCH FOR SENTIMENTALITY. LET'S START PACKING.
YES, MISS.
FSH HH
FSH HH

FSSHH
FSSHH
FSSHH
FSSHH
FSSHH
HA HA HAAA! SO THAT IS THE ISLAND OF DR. HSU!
SHALL WE GO ASHORE ??
FSSHH
SIGH
MISS LING LING, WILL THAT BE ALL?
YES. BEFORE I CAME, I DECIDED I WOULDN'T TAKE ANYTHING TOO BIG.

!
THESE ARE... THE BLUE-PRINTS FOR GORIKI!!

WE'LL NEED THESE TO KEEP GORIKI PROPERLY MAIN-TAINED.
THEY COULD BE DANGEROUS IN THE WRONG HANDS.

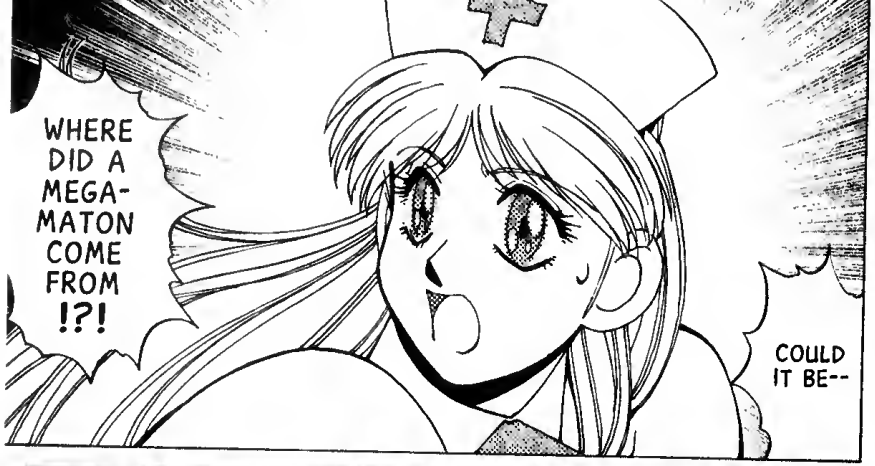

GORIKI! PLEASE TAKE THIS BACK TO THE DOCK.
RR
FONNK
WH-WHAT ??

CHUGGA
CHUGGA
CHUGGA
CHUGGA

WHAT'S GOING ON, NARUTAKI!? WHY THIS SUDDEN URGE FOR A BOAT RIDE!?
I'M WORRIED ABOUT LING LING!! SHE MIGHT BE--

THONK
FONNK
SKREE
SKREE

ÓNN!!
KRAKKA
KRAKKA
KRAKKA


WHERE DID A MEGA-MATON COME FROM !?!
COULD IT BE--

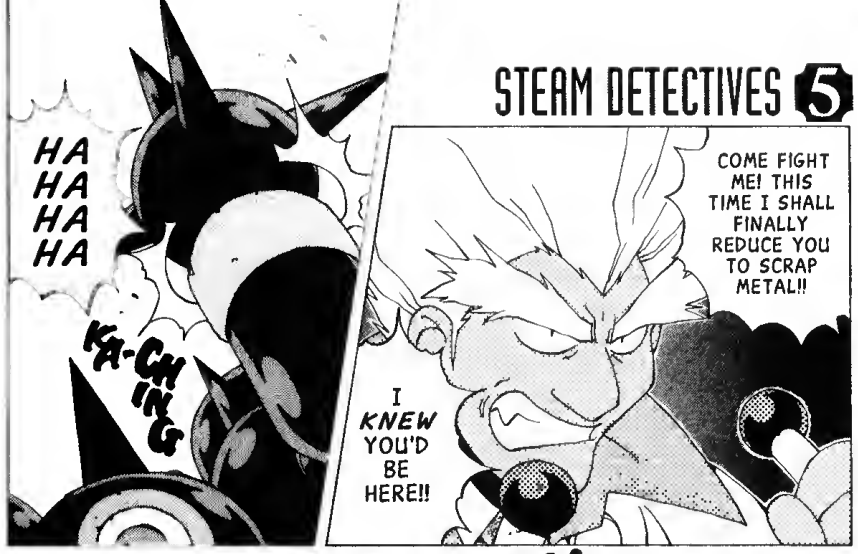
HA HA HA HA! INDEED IT IS, LING LING HSU!
THONK
IT IS I!! DR. GUILTY!! YOU THOUGHT I WAS DEAD!!

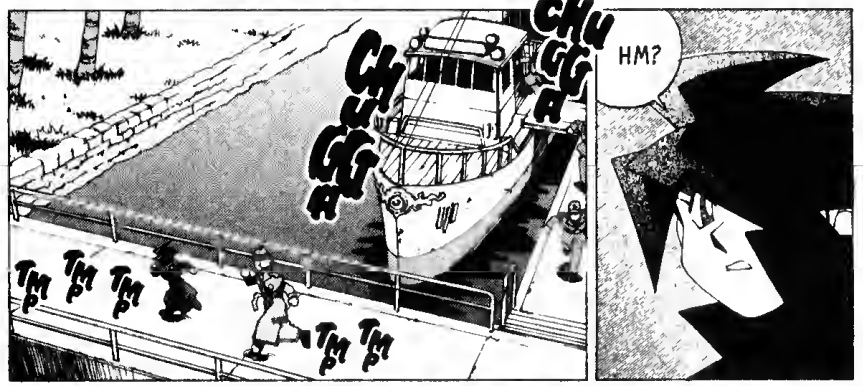
RR
BUT I LIVE! AS DOES MY NEW SHADOW BOLT SERIES MEGA-MATON...
FONNK
...SHADOW BOLT No. 3 !!

NOW I SHALL CLAIM DR. HSU'S BLUE-PRINTS!!
THONK
YOU WHAT !?!
HAND THEM OVER QUIETLY...
...OR ELSE...

SHH-
HHING
!?

SHADOW HAMMER !!
BUMM

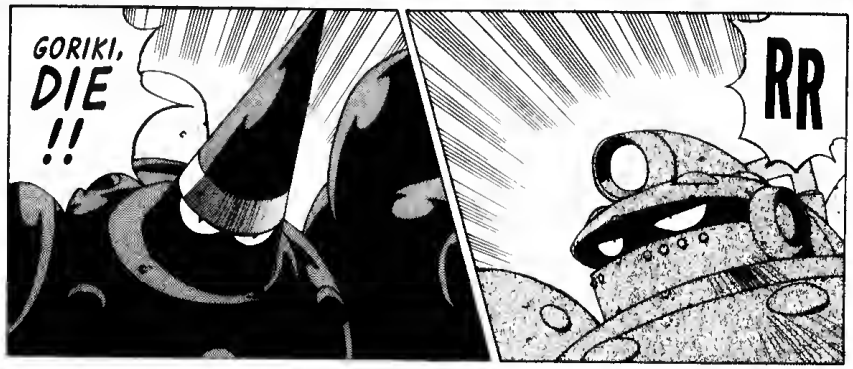

HA HA HA HA
KA-CHING
COME FIGHT ME! THIS TIME I SHALL FINALLY REDUCE YOU TO SCRAP METAL!!
I KNEW YOU'D BE HERE!!


CHUGGA
CHUGGA
TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP
HM?

WHAT'S THAT!?
IT LOOKS LIKE A LARGE OBJECT WAS DRAGGED UP ON SHORE

KRAK-
KOWW
!!

GORIKI
!!
RR


GORIKI, DIE !!
RR

GORIK!!
LING LING!! GORIKI !!

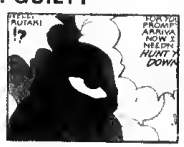
STEAM DETECTIVES PRESS

ONCE AGAIN, DR. GUILTY ATTACKS!!

We have just received reports that the man behind the recent series of sea accidents is alleged to be the notorious Dr. Guilty! The combat megamatons he designs and controls have caused repeated destruction in Steam City and as a result, public fear is at its peak. To make matters worse, every successive model of Shadow Bolt has been more destructive than its predecessor. According to unconfirmed reports, this new model is designed for underwater combat. Apparently, the operator can control the megamaton from its cockpit. If this is true, Dr. Guilty's scientific genius rivals only his madness!! Steam City's own Goriki, who destroyed the previous Shadow Bolts, faces a formidable enemy this time. But what could be Dr Guilty's motives!?

DR. GUILTY

THE FIRST MEGAMATON SHADOW BOLT No.1



SHADOW BOLT No. 2 ITS ARMOR WAS 10 TIMES THE STRENGTH OF No 1

SHADOW BOLT No. 3: ITS ARMOR IS TWICE THE STRENGTH OF NO. 2

THIS SUMMER, TAKE A CRUISE TO THE SOUTHERN ISLANDS!

BLUE'S ISLANDS CRUISE

NOW ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS!

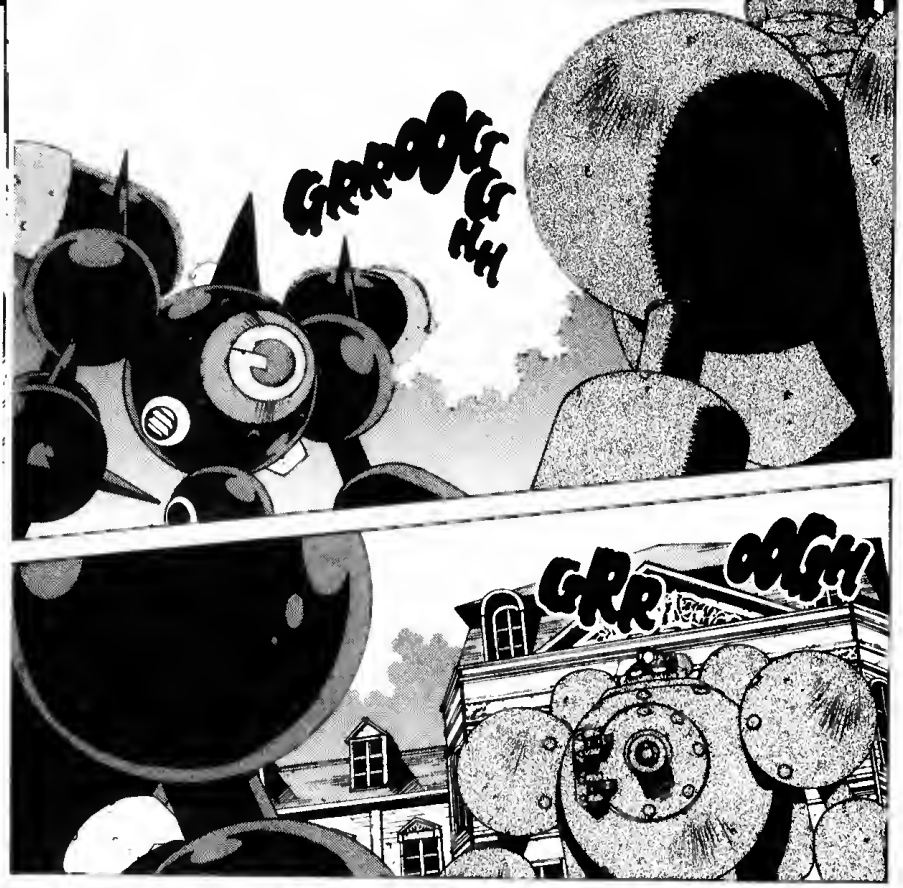
STEAM CITY TOURS

PHONE: B-7871-9996

Volume021 ▪ Issued by Steam Press Co.,Ltd.

CASE 13, PART 2

HEAD-ON! SHADOW BOLT NO. 3 vs. GORIKI!!

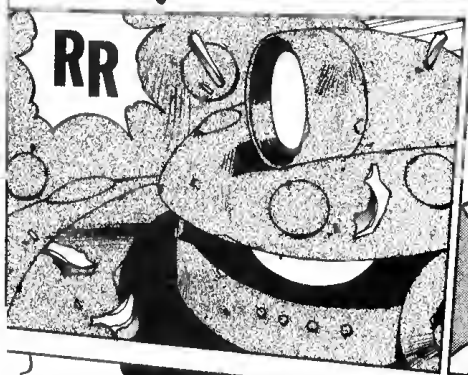

GRRROOOGGGHH
GRR
OOOGH

YOU WILL NOT TRICK ME LIKE LAST TIME!
WIT-NESS THE POWER OF No. 3 !!
DR. GUILTY...
I DON'T SEE HIM ANY-WHERE...
LING LING! TAKE COVER INSIDE THE BUILDING!! IT'S DANGEROUS OUT HERE!!
Y-YES...

THONK
THONK
THONK
KA-CHANG
CHANG
KRA-

VRRRR
RRR
THAT SAME MOVE SHALL NOT DEFEAT ME TWICE!!
GR-
OOOGGHH

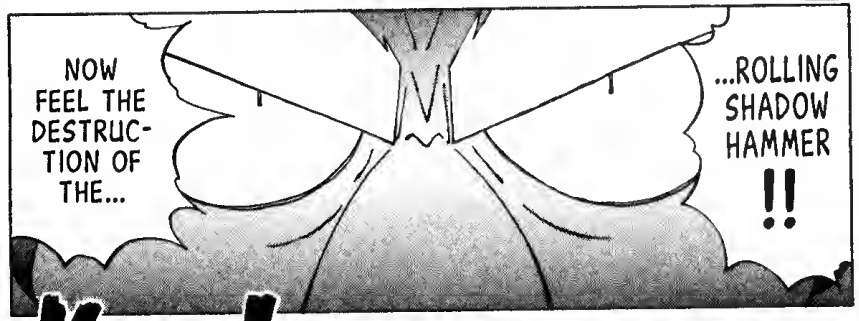
WATCH


RR

HA HA HA HA HA!
SHADOW BOLT No. 3 HAS TWICE THE ARMOR OF No. 2!!
SEE HOW IT SHREDS YOUR DRILL !!

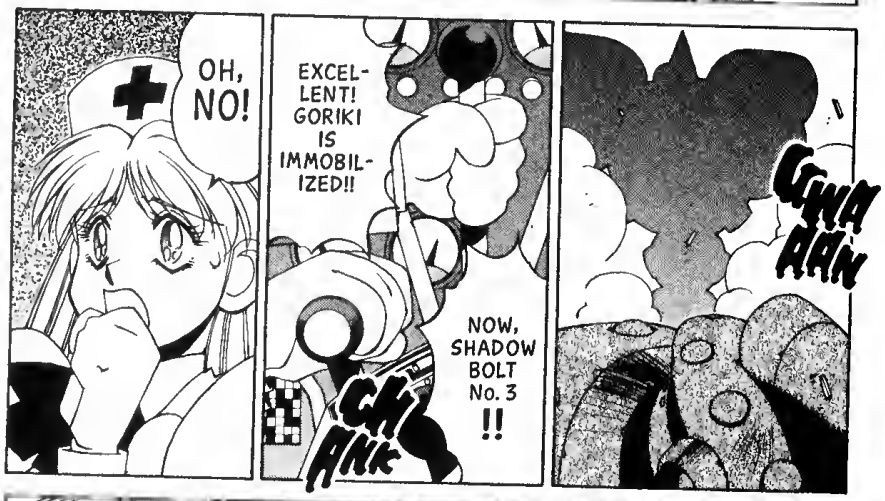
GORIKI !!
GORIKI !!
KA-CHASH

KLAANG

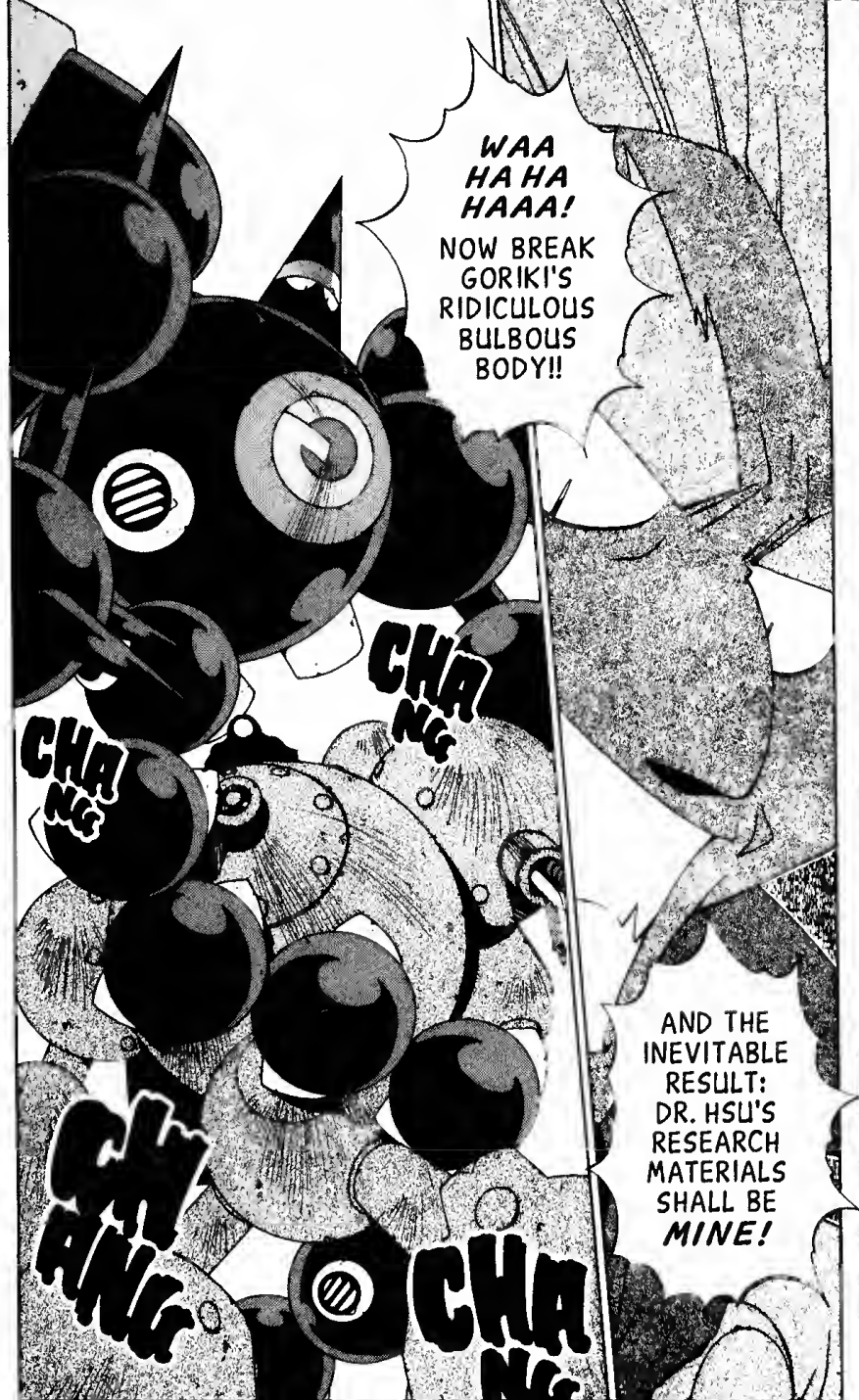

NOW FEEL THE DESTRUCTION OF THE...
...ROLLING SHADOW HAMMER !!

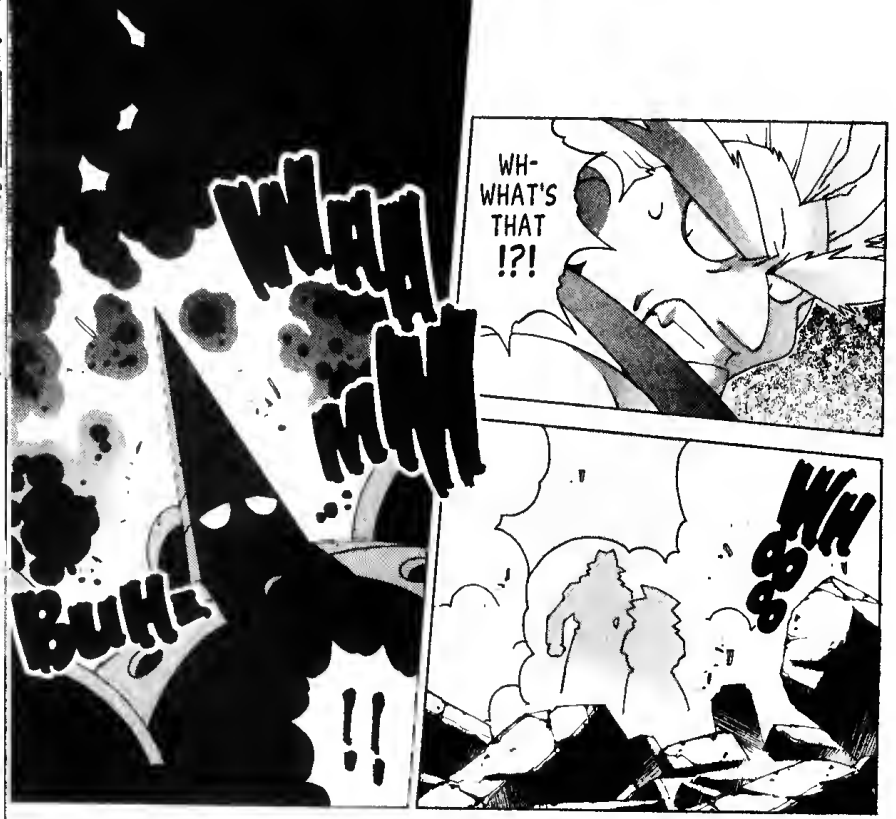
VVVV

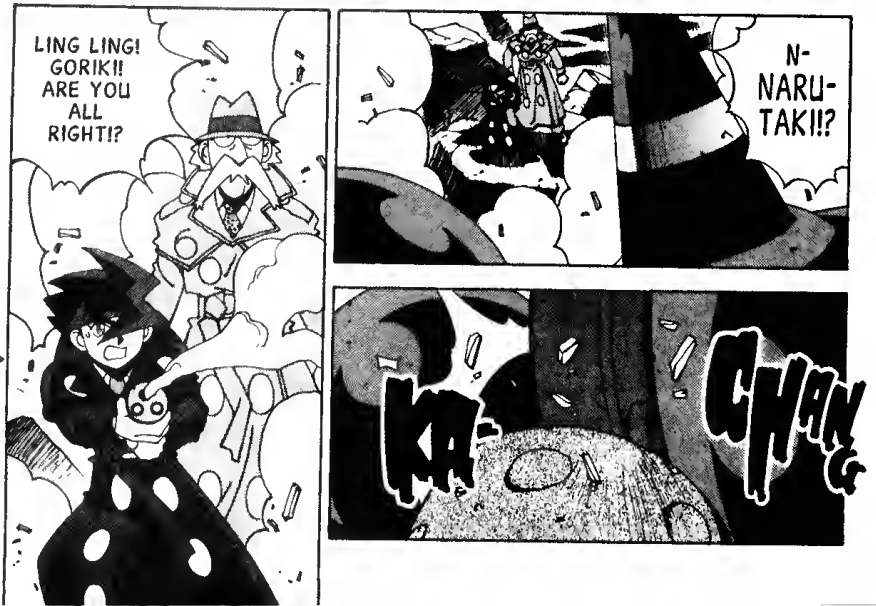
GH-GHA AAA
MM
GORIKI !!

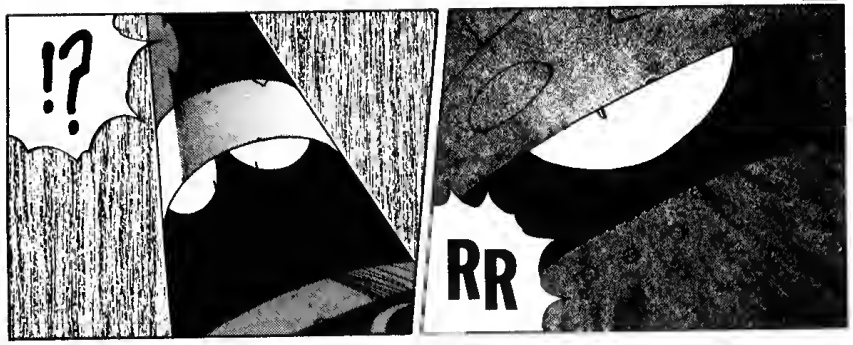

OH, NO!
EXCEL-LENT! GORIKI IS IMMOBIL-IZED!!
CH ANK
NOW, SHADOW BOLT No. 3 !!
GWA AAN

SSS SHAAK


WAA HA HA HAAA!
NOW BREAK GORIKI'S RIDICULOUS BULBOUS BODY!!
CHA NG
CHA NG
CH ANG
CHA NG
AND THE INEVITABLE RESULT: DR. HSU'S RESEARCH MATERIALS SHALL BE MINE!


WHA
MM
BUH!
!!
WH-
WHAT'S
THAT
!?!
WH
OO


LING LING!
GORIKI!!
ARE YOU
ALL
RIGHT!?
N-
NARU-
TAKI!?
KA-
CHANG


!?
RR

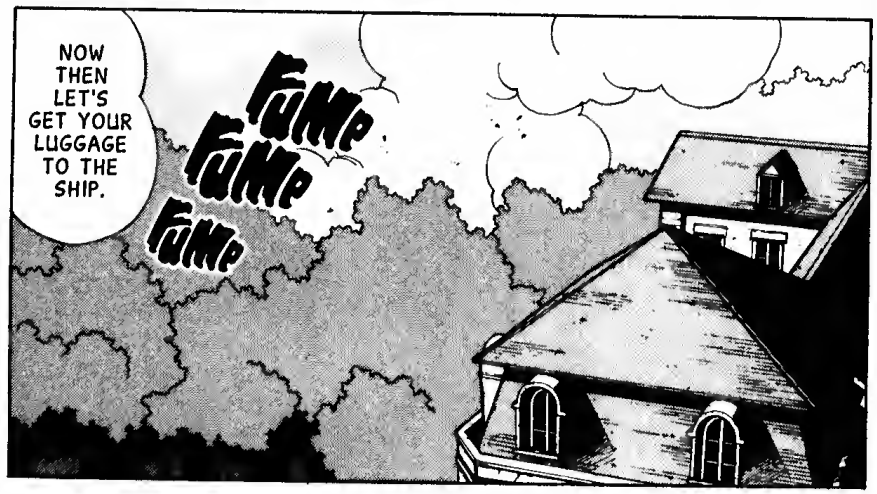
EEE
YYAA
AAAA
HHH!
PHOO
CCCC

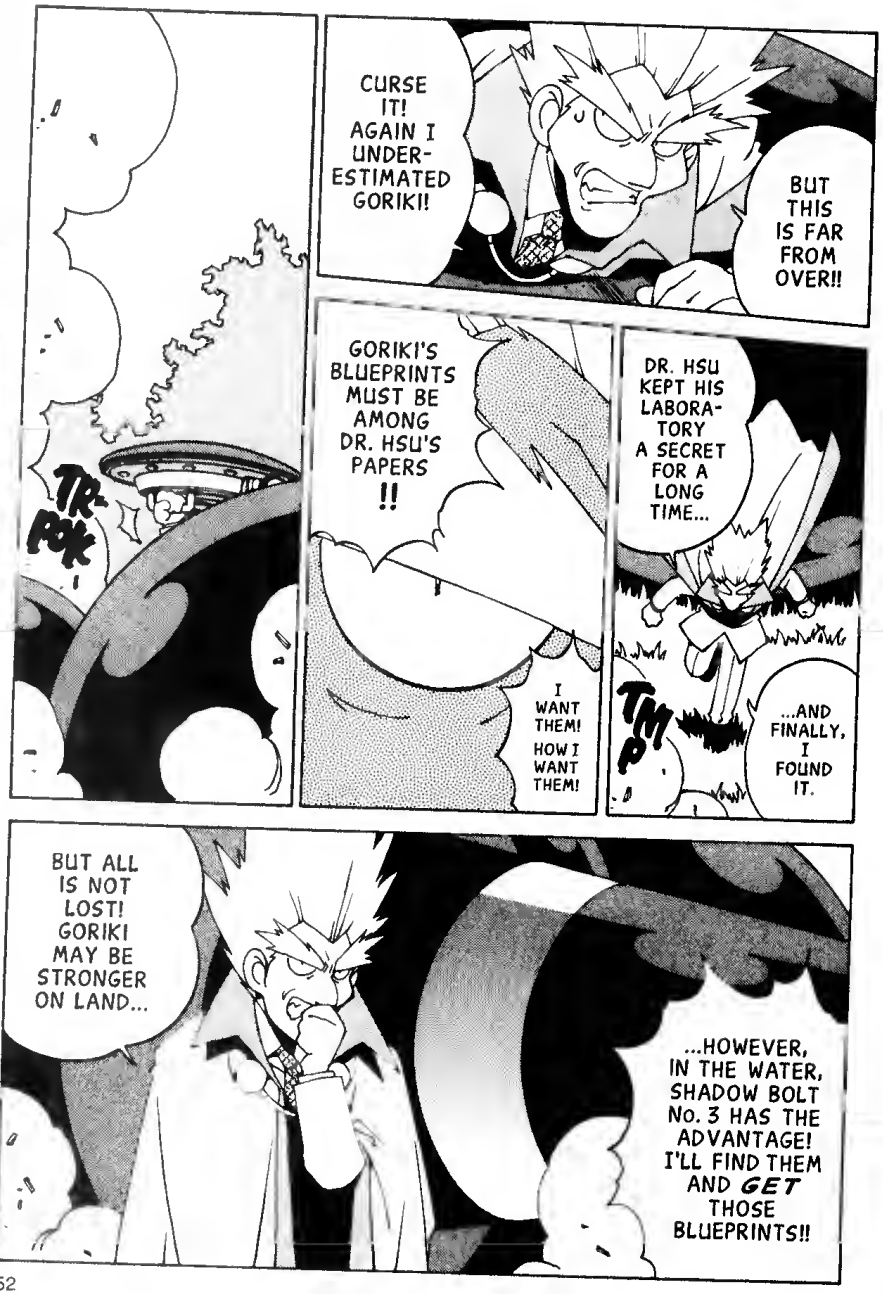
WAAA AAA! OH, NOOO OOO!!
ING

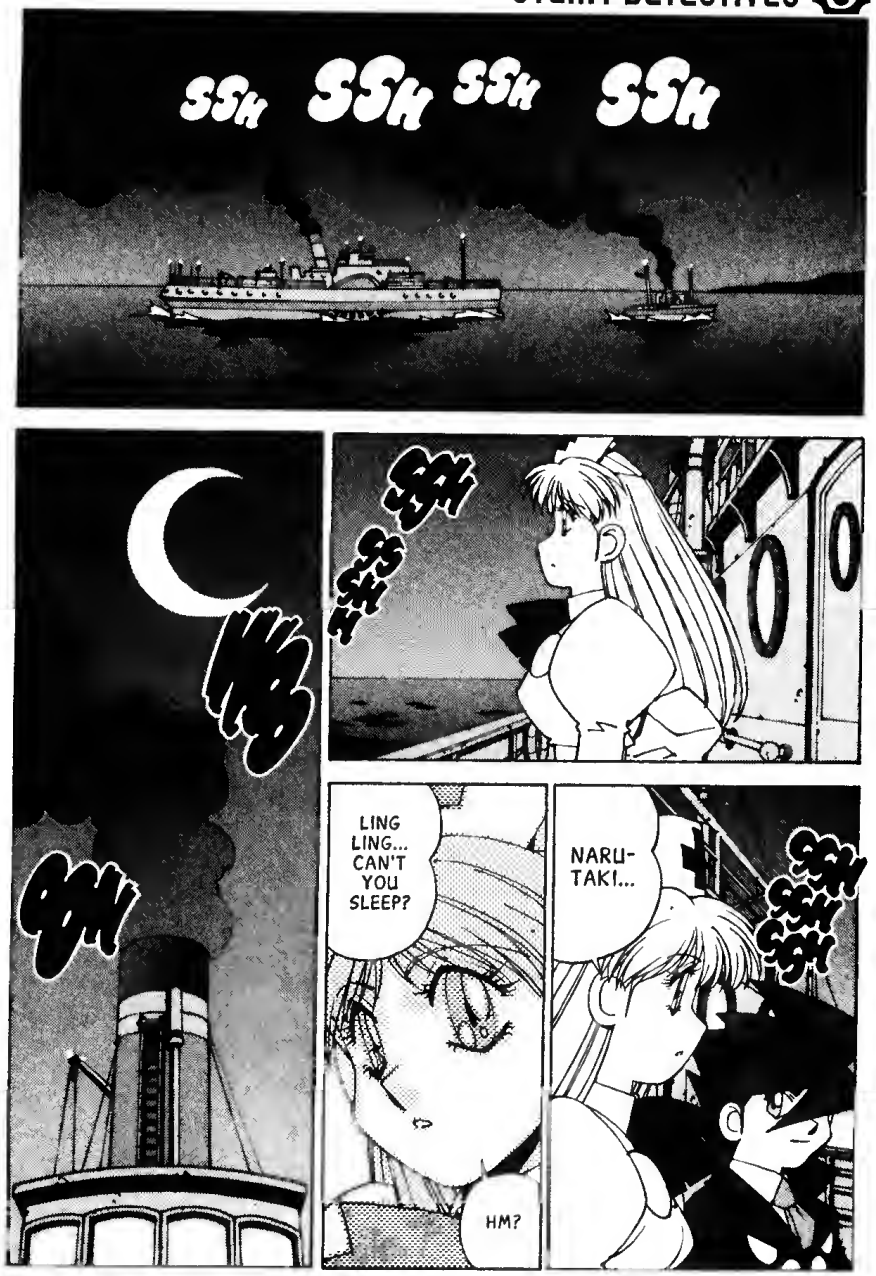
GUN
ACK

GORIKI! IS YOUR ARM ALL RIGHT ??
RR
LING LING!!

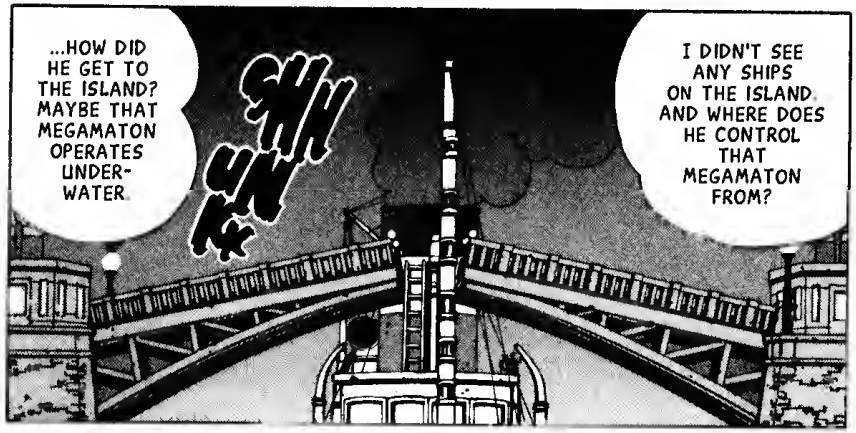
YOU'RE NOT HURT? AND KAWA-KUBO?
WE'RE BOTH FINE.
I KNEW YOU'D COME TO SAVE US.
OF COURSE I DID !!


NOW THEN LET'S GET YOUR LUGGAGE TO THE SHIP.
FUMP
FUMP
FUMP

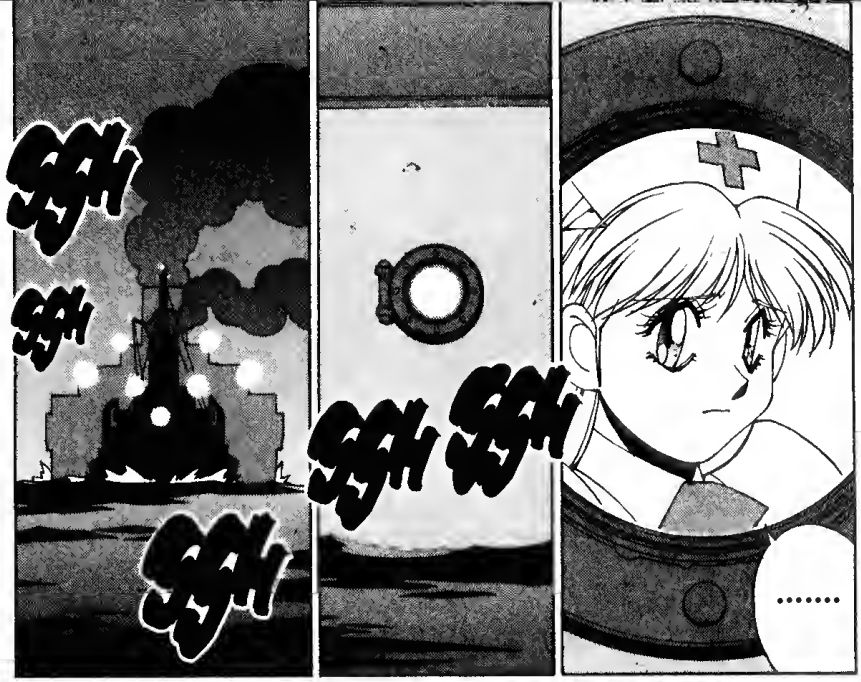

CURSE IT! AGAIN I UNDER-ESTIMATED GORIKI!
BUT THIS IS FAR FROM OVER!!
TR-POK!
GORIKI'S BLUEPRINTS MUST BE AMONG DR. HSU'S PAPERS !!
I WANT THEM! HOW I WANT THEM!
DR. HSU KEPT HIS LABORA-TORY A SECRET FOR A LONG TIME...
TMP
...AND FINALLY, I FOUND IT.
BUT ALL IS NOT LOST! GORIKI MAY BE STRONGER ON LAND...
...HOWEVER, IN THE WATER, SHADOW BOLT No. 3 HAS THE ADVANTAGE! I'LL FIND THEM AND GET THOSE BLUEPRINTS!!

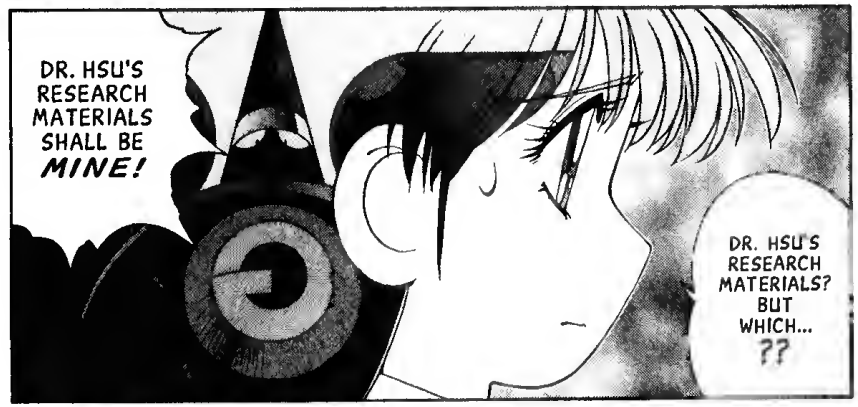

SSH SSH SSH SSH
SSH SSH SSH
OOH
LING LING... CAN'T YOU SLEEP?
HM?
NARU-TAKI...
SSH SSH SSH

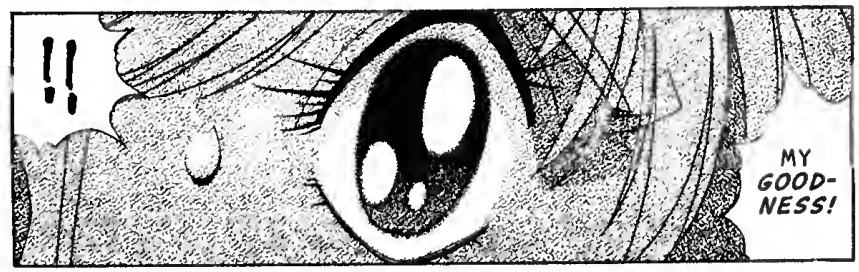
WE'LL BE ENTERING THE STEAM CITY CANALS SOON. DR. GUILTY WILL NEVER CATCH UP.
GET SOME REST, LING LING.
HE FOLLOWED US ALL THE WAY TO THE ISLAND. THAT WORRIES ME.
AND ONE MORE THING...

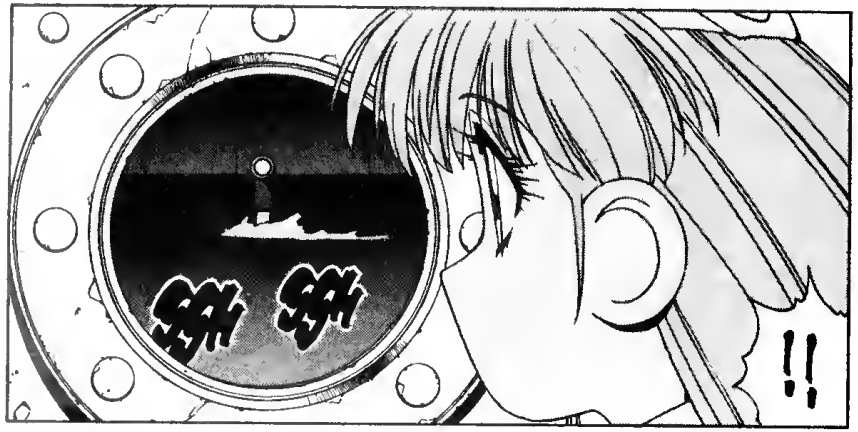

...HOW DID HE GET TO THE ISLAND? MAYBE THAT MEGAMATON OPERATES UNDER-WATER.
SHU UN
I DIDN'T SEE ANY SHIPS ON THE ISLAND. AND WHERE DOES HE CONTROL THAT MEGAMATON FROM?

WOOO GU N
NARUTAKI. WE'VE ENTERED THE CANAL. HE WON'T CATCH US HERE.
I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT.
I ALSO CON-TACTED DR. MAYERD.
HE SAID HE'LL HELP US REPAIR GORIKI.

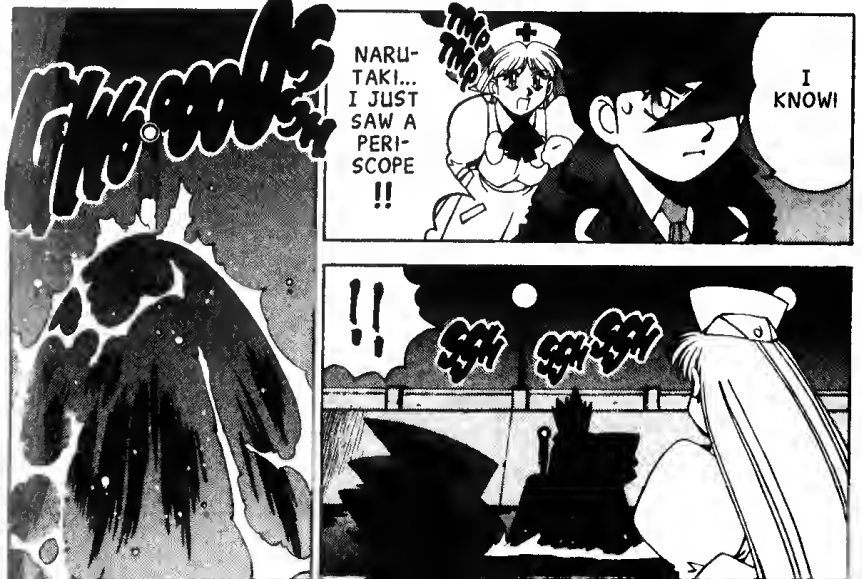

SGH
SGH
SGH SGH
SGH
.....


DR. HSU'S RESEARCH MATERIALS SHALL BE MINE!
DR. HSU'S RESEARCH MATERIALS? BUT WHICH... ??

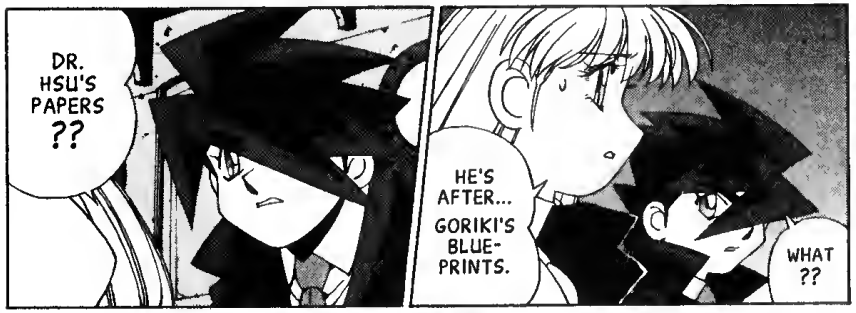

!!
MY GOOD-NESS!


SSH SSH
!!

A P-P-PERI-SCOPE !!
COULD THAT BE...
...DR. GUILTY !?!
SSH
SSH


TIKI-DOOLIS
NARU-TAKI... I JUST SAW A PERI-SCOPE !!
TMP TMP
I KNOW!
!!
SSH SSH SSH

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE MET IN THESE CANALS, NARU-TAKI!!
I'LL SPARE YOU YOUR LIVES, IF YOU HAND OVER DR. HSU'S PAPERS!


DR. HSU'S PAPERS ??
HE'S AFTER... GORIKI'S BLUE-PRINTS.
WHAT ??

THAT'S RIGHT!! AND LING LING HSU, YOU HAVE THEM!!
NOW, IF YOU DON'T WANT THIS SHIP REDUCED TO SCRAPS IN THE OCEAN... ER...THE CANAL... HAND THEM OVER!!
SSH SSH SSH SSH SSH

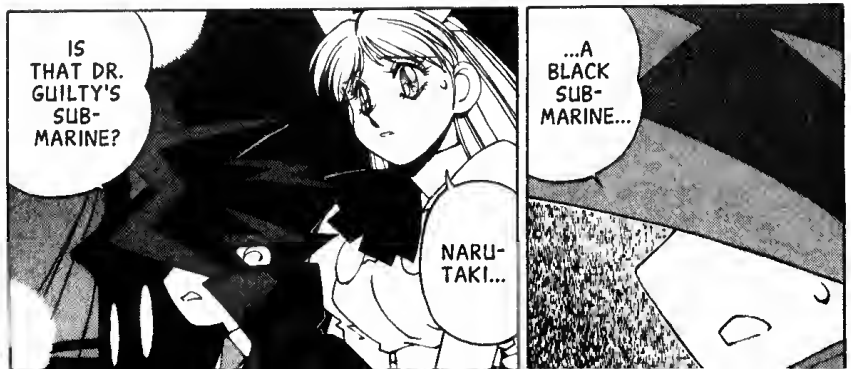
WHA--
EH ??
ABSO-LUTELY NOT !!
MY FATHER STAKED HIS *LIFE* ON THE INVENTIONS HE CREATED!!
I WILL *NOT* LET THEM FALL INTO THE HANDS OF SOMEONE WHO WILL USE THEM FOR EVIL!!

CASE 13, PART 3

THE ATTACH OF SHADOW BOLT NO. 3! GORIHI'S GREATEST DANGER!!

KLANK
KA-CHANG
I'LL SHOW THAT UPSTART NARU-TAKI!
NOW !!

GUGOGOGOGOGOGOGO


IS THAT DR. GUILTY'S SUB-MARINE?
NARU-TAKI...
...A BLACK SUB-MARINE...

GUGOGOGOGOGOGOGO
ZZZ-CHA-KA-G
GUU
GUU-GUU-GHA
GUU-GUU-GHA

GUGOGOGOGOGOGOGO
AAA-

WAA-HA HA HA HA!!
I DON'T SEEM TO SEE GORIKI ANYWHERE! PERHAPS HE IS INCAPACI-TATED!!
NOW I SHALL CLAIM DR. HSU'S LEGACY !!

EW aa a n
NO YOU WON'T!
LING LING...
THESE ARE MY MEMORIES OF MY FATHER AND MY MOTHER!
YOU'LL NEVER GET THEM!
WHO'S INTERESTED IN ANY-BODY'S MEMORIES ??
I'M ONLY AFTER GORIKI'S BLUE-PRINTS!
NARUTAKI! MY POLICE FORCE CAN HANDLE THIS!
CHU GGA CHU GGA
INSPEC-TOR YAGAMI !

GET READY, MEN...
...AIM...
...FIRE!!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
KAN
KAN
KA
NG
HA HA HA HAA! YOU THINK THOSE AFFECT ME!?
KAN
N
KA
NG
OOH
OH, NOO OOO OO!
GLOPSH
GLOPSH
S-S-SAVE ME!

TURN THE BOAT TO HELP THOSE POLICE-MEN!
SH
SH
HURRY !!
WOSH
THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT
YOU'LL SOON BE JOINING THEM IN THE WATER
WWAA
LING LING, HIT THE DECK AND GRAB ON TO SOME-THING!
NARU-TAKI!
AAN
AN
AHHH
BOOM

CHGG
CHGG
CHGG
CHGG
GORIKI !!
NOT AGAIN !!
YOU ALWAYS SEEM TO APPEAR WHEN I'M ON THE VERGE OF VICTORY!
JUST LIKE DR. HSU ALWAYS DID!
CHGG
CHGG
RR
GA-
CHAA NG

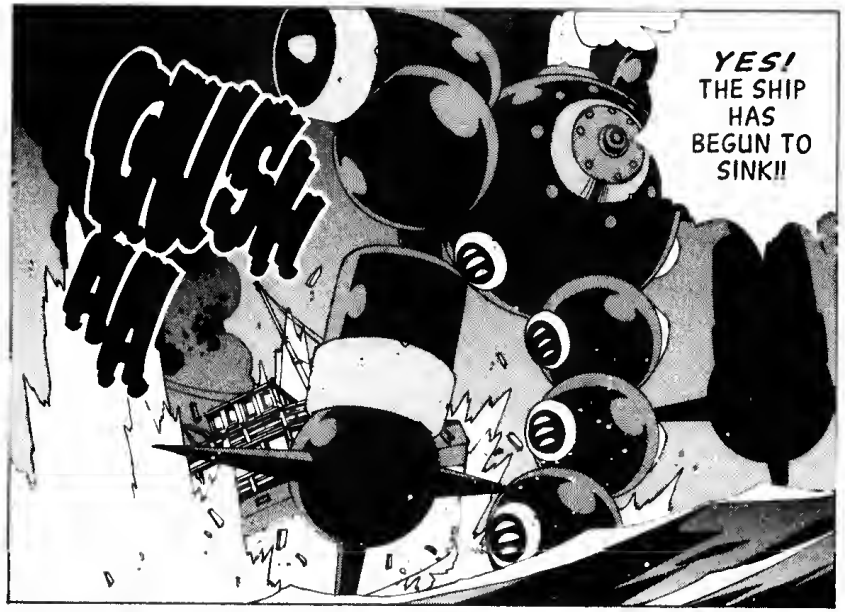
BUT I HAVE A NOTION...
...WE HAVE THE ADVAN-TAGE !!
GORIKI IS LESS EFFECTIVE IN THE WATER. SO IN A MARINE BATTLE...
PSSHH
PSSHH
PSSHH
EEEEN
EEEEN
CHONG
GOOCH-

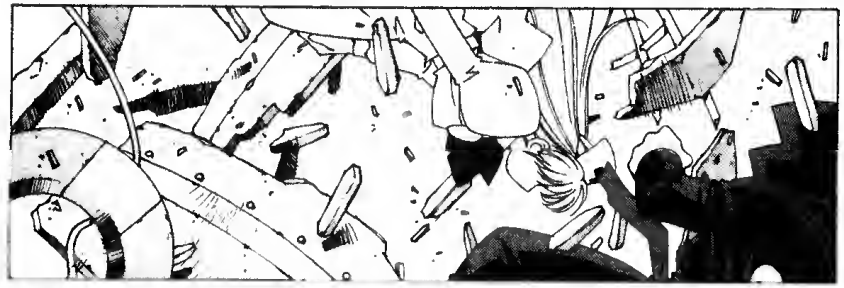
ZHA
AA
SHH

I MUST HAVE OVER-ESTIMATED GORIK!!
TAKE THIS !!
GR RA-
CHHH
NN
YAA AAA AHH!

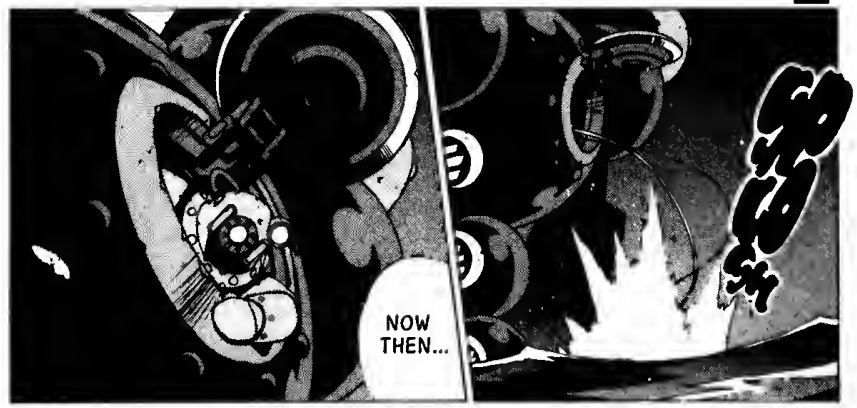
ZHOO
OOOOH NNN

NARU-TAKI! THE BOAT... IT'S...
KRAK
LING LING! WE HAVE TO ABANDON SHIP!
GRAK
BUT... HOW CAN I LEAVE MY FATHER'S THINGS...

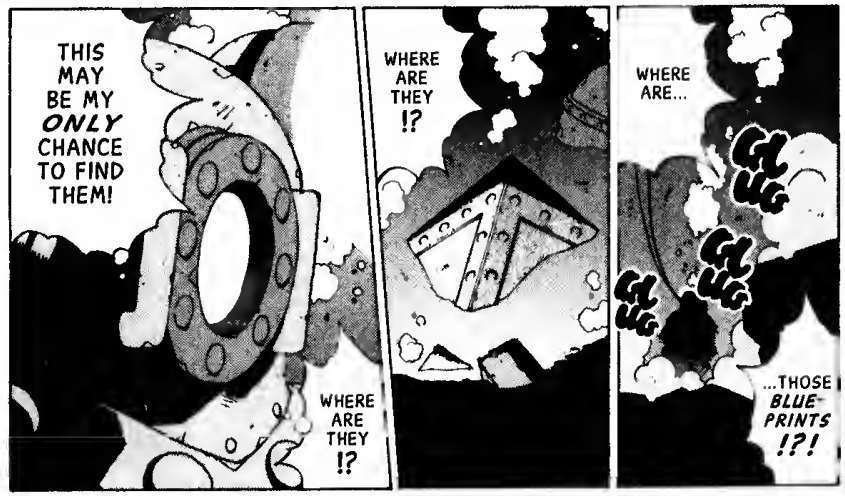

GUSH AA
YES! THE SHIP HAS BEGUN TO SINK!!



LING LING!
LING LING, WAKE UP!
LING LING!

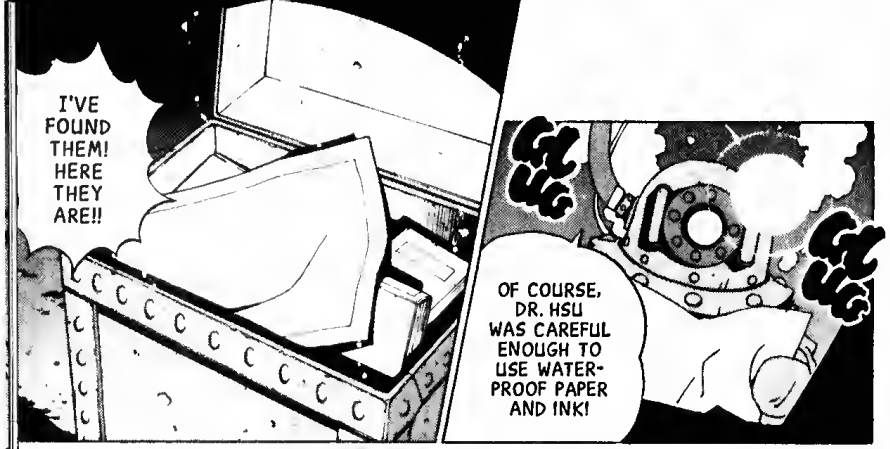

NOW THEN...

WHERE? WHERE ARE THEY !?!
WHERE ARE GORIKI'S BLUE-PRINTS !?!


THIS MAY BE MY ONLY CHANCE TO FIND THEM!
WHERE ARE THEY !?
WHERE ARE THEY !?
WHERE ARE...
...THOSE BLUE-PRINTS !?!

FATHER!
I'M HERE IN MY STUDY.
WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON?
HM?
I'VE BEEN MEANING TO BUILD A LARGE AUTOMATON!
I'M CERTAIN IT WILL BE A GREAT HELP TO PEOPLE.
WOW! WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE CALLED ??
I'VE NAMED IT "GORIKI."
IT MEANS STRONG POWER!!
HMM... GORIKI.
HA HA. YOU DON'T LIKE THE NAME, LING LING?

LING LING, FATHER. DINNER'S READY...
MOM'S WAITING.
OKAY! WE'LL BE RIGHT THERE.
YES?
FATHER?
WHEN WILL YOU FINISH THIS PROJECT? THIS, UH...
HA HA. IT WON'T BE DONE FOR A LONG TIME YET. IT'S CALLED GORIKI. REMEMBER THAT... GORIKI.
GORIKI...
FATHER...
HM?
LING LING! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
NARU... TAKI...

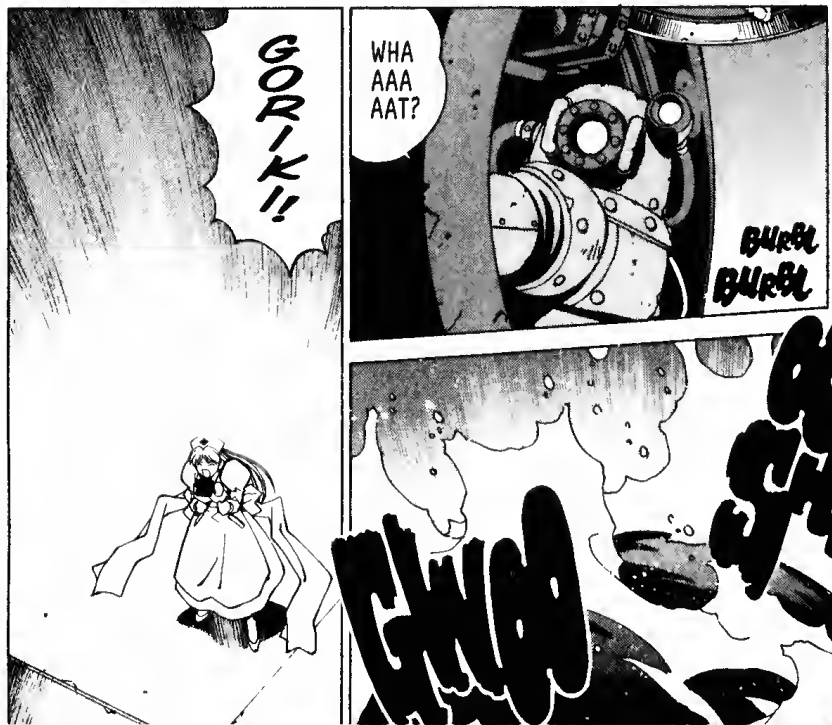

I'VE FOUND THEM! HERE THEY ARE!!
GL UG
GL UG
OF COURSE, DR. HSU WAS CAREFUL ENOUGH TO USE WATER-PROOF PAPER AND INK!

AND THAT WILL BE YOUR DESTRUC-TION !!
NOW THE BLUE-PRINTS ARE MINE !!

NARU-TAK!!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
TM TM TM
YES! AND YOU, INSPEC-TOR?
THE POLICE AND SHIP'S CREW WERE ALL RESCUED. THEY'RE ALL ON DRY LAND.
GOOD.
BUT ALL THE CARGO...
YES...
LING LING...
FSSSH

.....

FATHER...
GORIKI...


GORIK!!
WHA AAA AAT?
BUBBL BUBBL
GLUGG
GG SHH

GWK
OFSH
GWK
OFSH
GWK
OFSH
RR
GWK
OFSH
GWK
OFSH

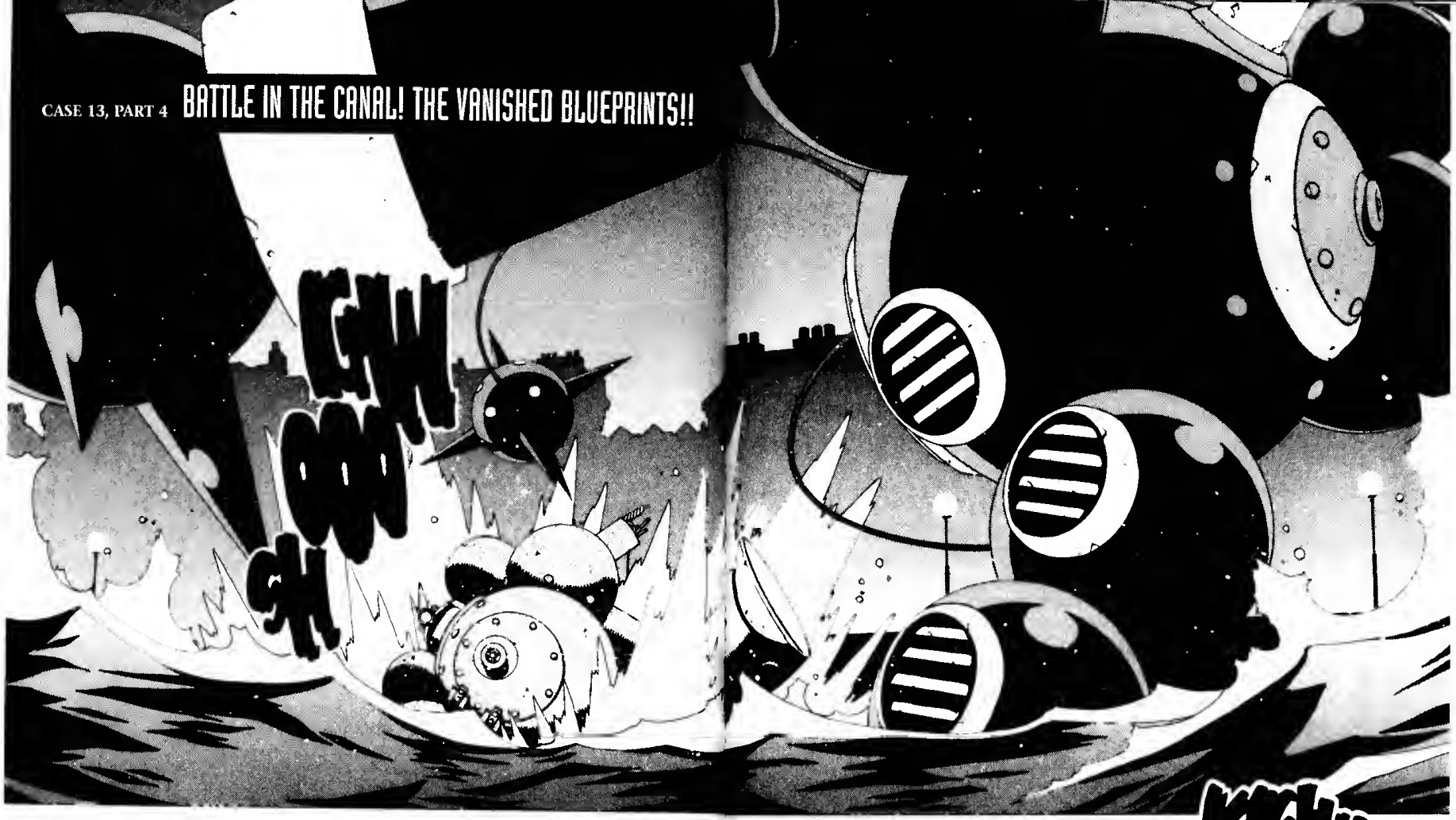
HA! SO YOU WISH ANOTHER BATTLE WITH SHADOW BOLT No. 3 IN THE WATER!?
HOW PERFECT! HA HA HAA HAAA!
RR
GORIKI...
WILL GORIKI BE ALL RIGHT ?
I HAVE YOUR BLUE-PRINTS!! ALL THAT REMAINS IS YOUR DESTRUCTION, GORIKI!!
GORIKI, GO!!

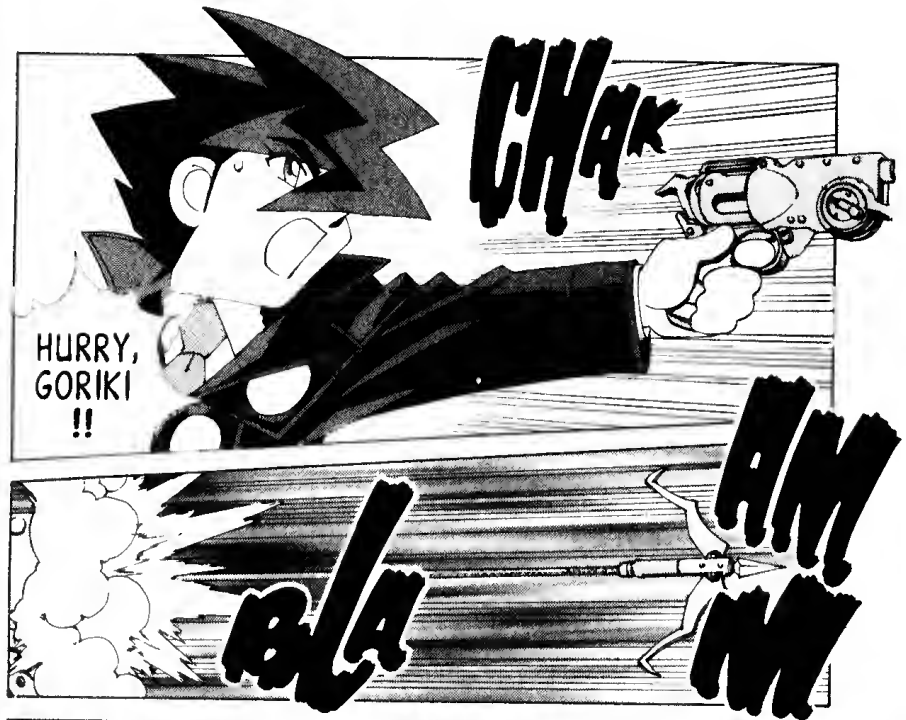
CASE 13, PART 4

BATTLE IN THE CANAL! THE VANISHED BLUEPRINTS!!

CASE 13, PART 4

BATTLE IN THE CANAL! THE VANISHED BLUEPRINTS!!



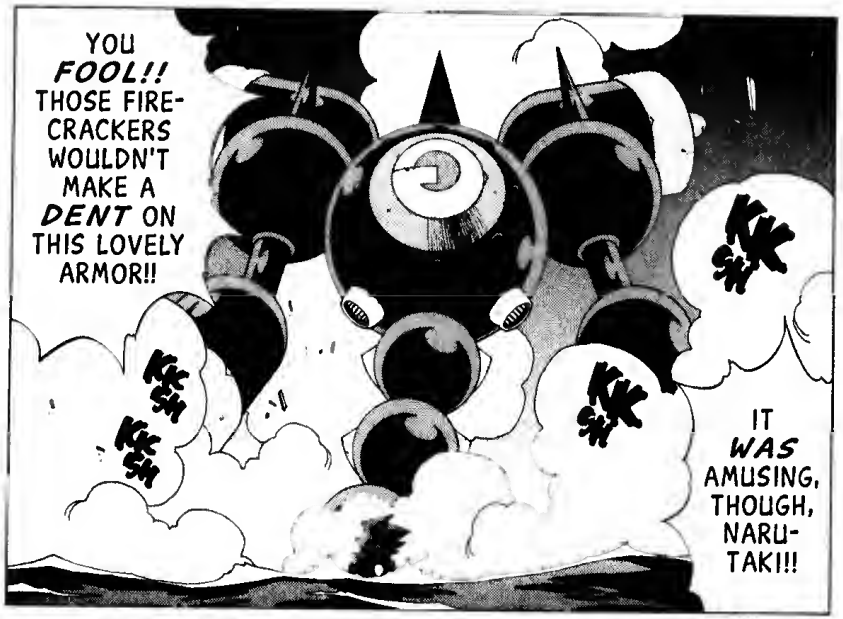

CHAK
HURRY, GORIKI !!
BLA
AM
MM

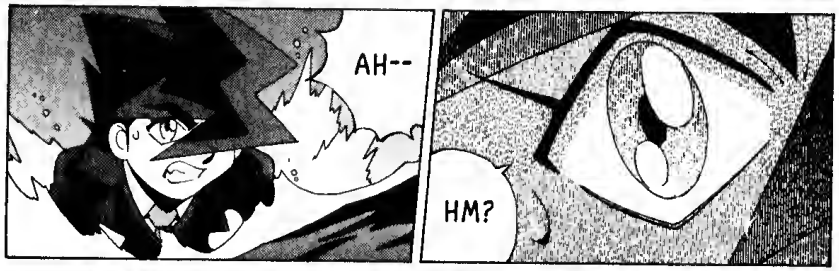
CH
AH
RR
!!
HA HA HA HAA! WHAT'S YOUR PLAN, NARU-TAK!!?
NOW YOU WANT TO FIGHT SHADOW BOLT NO. 3!?
THAT'S RIGHT !!
GO SH
NARU-TAKI !!
YOUNG SIR !!

TUMP
I'LL TAKE YOU ON, DR. GUILTY !!
CHANK
CHINK
CHINK
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THOSE ARE JUST COAT BUTTONS!
EXACTLY! BUTTONS ARE ONE OF MY 16 TOOLS!
AND THIS IS WHAT THEY DO!!

BOOM
DID THAT GET HIM?

.....
.....
KKSH KKSH KKSH KKSH


YOU FOOL!! THOSE FIRE-CRACKERS WOULDN'T MAKE A DENT ON THIS LOVELY ARMOR!!
KK SH
KK SH
KK SH
KK SH
IT WAS AMUSING, THOUGH, NARU-TAKI!!


AH--
HM?

KRI KRI KRI

THE ARMOR OF SHADOW BOLT No. 3 ISN'T IMPENETRABLE. CONTINUOUS CONCENTRATED FORCE MIGHT BREAK THROUGH IT!
IT NEEDS A LITTLE MORE!
IF I COULD PUT MORE PRESSURE ON IT...

CHA NNG
NOW IT'S MY TURN, NARU-TAKI!!
HYA AAA AHH!
KK SH

GW OOSH
NARU-TAKI !!
YA AAH HH!
GET OUT OF THERE !!
UMF...
PSH AA
PSH

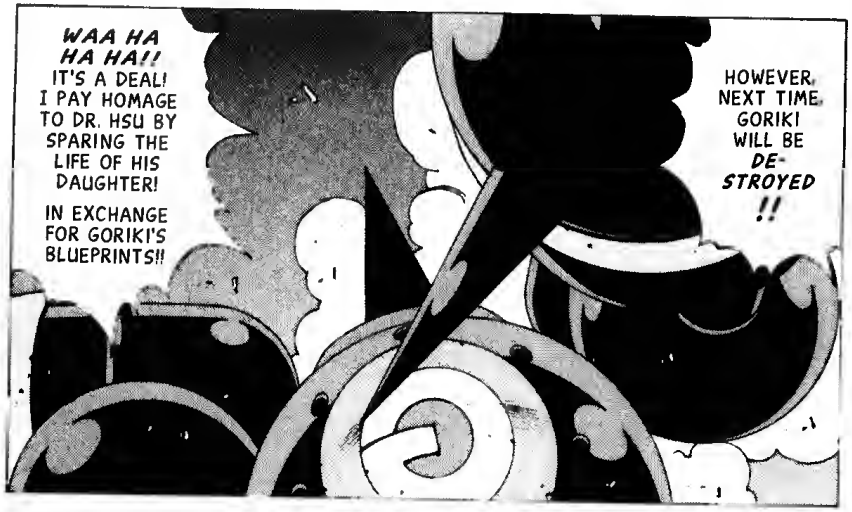
!!
ANGG
-cHa-
HA HA HAAA! RUNNING OUT OF PLACES TO HIDE, NA-RU-TA-KI ??

.....

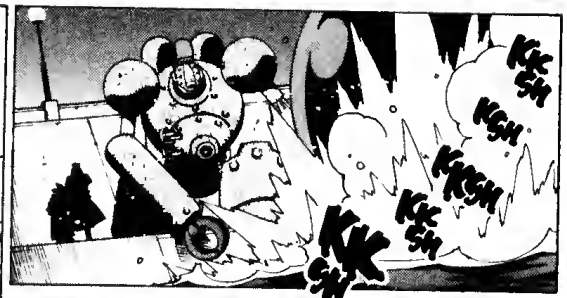
"Wa AHH

ZIT
!!

LING LING!
Fitt

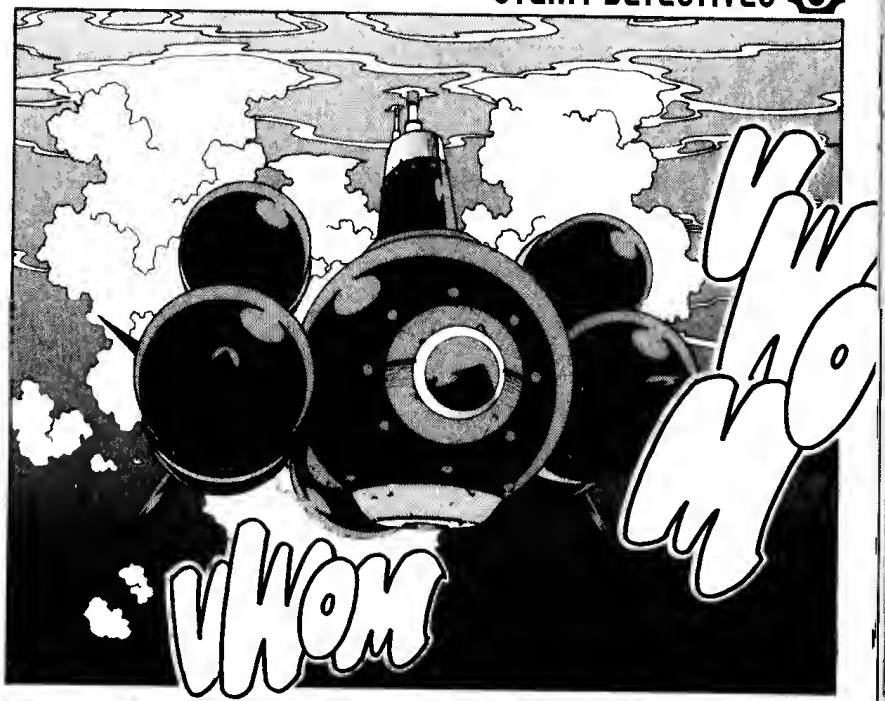

WAA HA HA HA!!
IT'S A DEAL! I PAY HOMAGE TO DR. HSU BY SPARING THE LIFE OF HIS DAUGHTER!
IN EXCHANGE FOR GORIKI'S BLUEPRINTS!!
HOWEVER, NEXT TIME, GORIKI WILL BE DE-STROYED !!

UNTIL THEN, ADIEU, NARU-TAKI!!
BWAA HA HA HA HA !!


KK SH
KSH
KKSH
KK SH
KK SH

UNG... DR. GUILTY...
HOW CAN I JUST LET HIM GO LIKE THIS?

!!

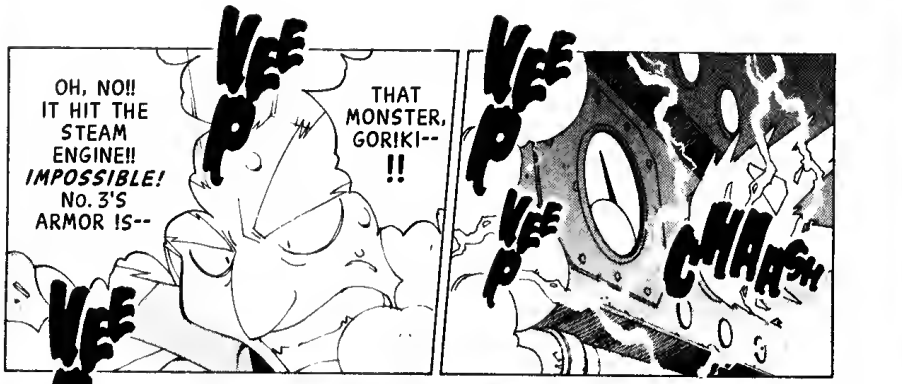

VWOM
VWOM

THE HORN SOUNDS THE END OF THE DAY'S WORK!!
FULL SPEED AHEAD, SHADOW BOLT NO. 3 !!

GON NN NG
WHA-- !!
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
KR IKI KR IKI

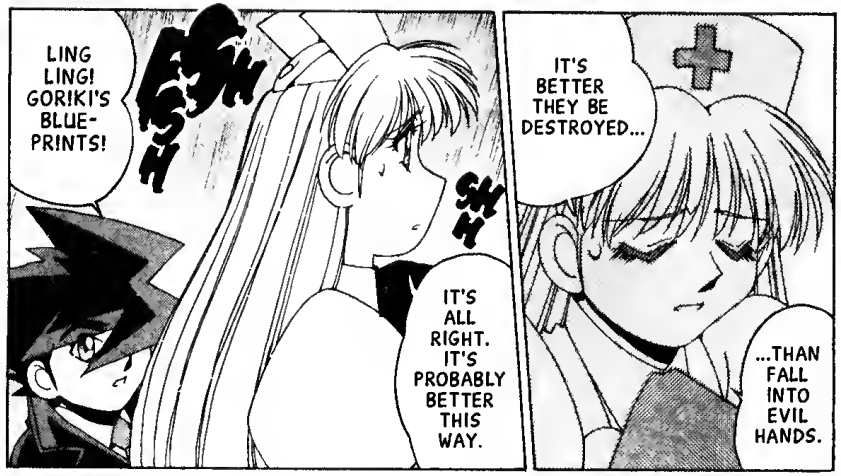
KRRANG
KRANG
KRRANG
KRRAAA
BREAK-WATER BLOCKS? RAINING FROM THE SKY!?
KA NG
KOH NG
GUH AGH
GREAT, GORIKI! KEEP IT UP!
OOOOGH
RR

CHH NNG
GLUG GLUG GLUG
NO! NO! NO! NO!
VEE P
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, NO.3 !?
KKOSH
CH ONNG
EE YAA AAA HH!


OH, NO!! IT HIT THE STEAM ENGINE!! IMPOSSIBLE! NO. 3'S ARMOR IS--
VEEP
THAT MONSTER, GORIKI-- !!
VEEP
VEEP
CHARSH

VEEP
DU!!

GLOR


LING LING! GORIKI'S BLUE-PRINTS!
FSHSH
SHH
IT'S ALL RIGHT. IT'S PROBABLY BETTER THIS WAY.
IT'S BETTER THEY BE DESTROYED...
...THAN FALL INTO EVIL HANDS.

CHA
FSH FSH
GLOOOO
OOOSH
HA HA HA HAA! YOU THOUGHT THAT WOULD KILL ME!?
No. 3 WAS JUST A DECOY! I HAVE THE PRIZE!!

IT WAS I WHO WON THIS ROUND!
GLOOOO
OOOSH
NARU-TAKI !!
OOSH
FSH FSH FSH
.....

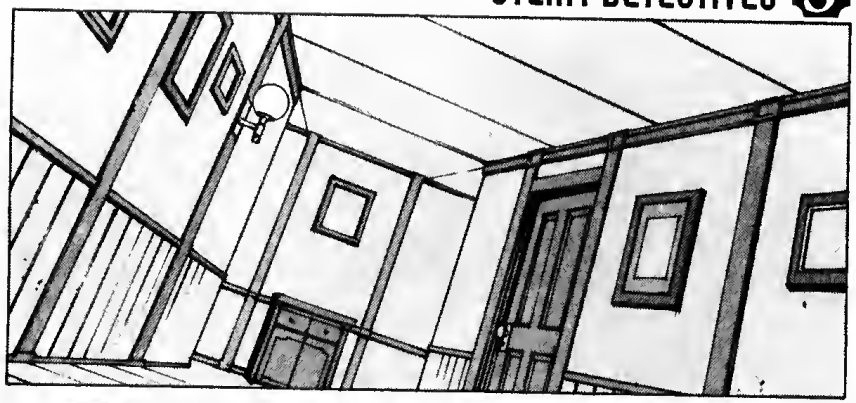
Case 13: CLOSED

CASE 14 FORMLESS ATTACKER! TRAP OF THE WHITE ANGEL!!

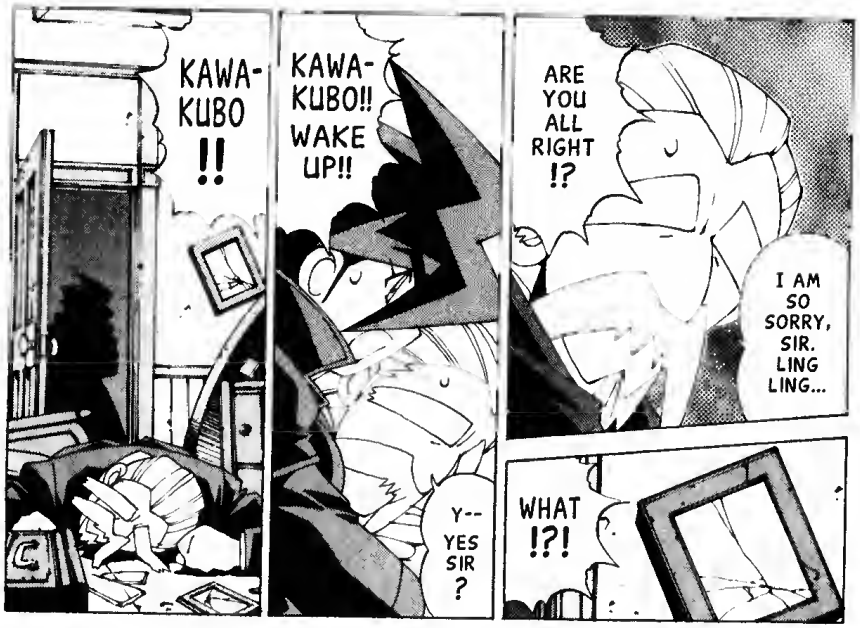
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
KA-CHI AK
MY INVESTI-GATIONS KEPT ME OUT TOO LATE.
LING LING WILL BE FUMING.
HUH ?

THE LIGHT ISN'T ON. KAWAKUBO USUALLY WAITS UP FOR ME.
MAYBE HE *FINALLY* WENT TO BED BEFORE ME.

CHI IC
IT'S UN-LOCKED...
CHI IC



WHAT COULD HAVE HAP-PENED !?


KAWA-KUBO !!
KAWA-KUBO!! WAKE UP!!
Y-- YES SIR ?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT !?
I AM SO SORRY, SIR. LING LING...
WHAT !?!

I WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF PREPARING DINNER WHEN SUDDENLY A SHADOWY FIGURE APPEARED IN FRONT OF THE WINDOW. I WAS HIT AND GORIKI WAS CHAINED DOWN...
THE SHADOW KNOCKED LING LING OUT, KIDNAPPED HER, AND ESCAPED THROUGH THE WINDOW.
I SEE.
RIIP

"IF YOU WANT LING LING BACK, COME TO MOONLIGHT PARK...
PHANTOM THIEF TINKER BELL."
HMMM.
WHERE'S GORIKI?
IN THE BASE-MENT, SIR.
KAWA-KUBO, YOU UNCHAIN HIM.
YES, SIR.

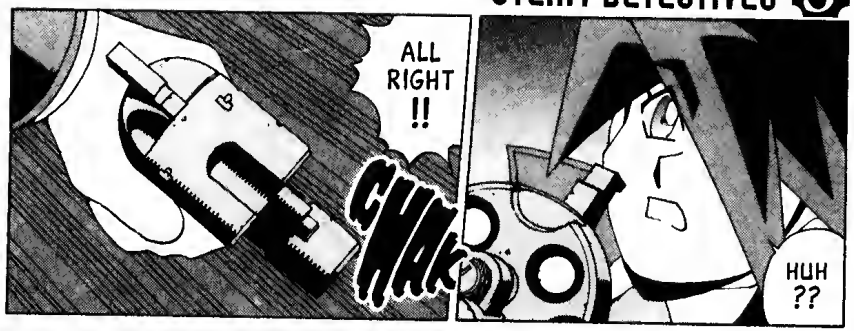
I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR LING LING!
PUFF PUFF
BE CARE-FUL, SIR...
PUFF PUFF PUFF

FWEEEE
TMP TMP
LING LING!
THIS SMOKE... IT'S...
FSSHH
FWUMP

FWUMP
FWUMP
FWUMP

SH--
SHADOW BOLT No.1
!?!
THAT CAN'T BE
!!

FWUMP
FWUMP
IS THIS IS AN ILLUSION? BUT THE GROUND...
...IS SHAKING.
SO IT'S REAL
!?
FWUMP
FWUMP
HOW COULD SHADOW BOLT BE--
!?


ALL RIGHT
!!
CHAK
HUH
??

FWEEEEEEEE

IT'S GONE
??
?
?
?
WHAT'S THAT
?

...LING LING'S NURSE'S CAP!!
EEEE
EEEE
WEE

NOW I HAVE TO GO TO THE CITY CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT?
WHAT IS THIS "PHANTOM THIEF TINKER BELL" UP TO ??
puff puff puff puff puff puff
puff puff puff puff
LING LING...
I'LL FIND YOU!!
puff puff puff puff
THIS WAS WHERE DON DEATH...
AM
BA

!!
IT'S...
LING LING'S APRON...
D--
DON DEATH !?!

SHHH
NNG
AH!

FWISH
WHAT'S...
FW OOSH
...GOING ON?
.....

SSHHHH
I SEE... EVERY-THING'S FROM MY PAST...
WHY IS IT SO ELAB-ORATE?
THE NEXT LOCA-TION IS THE FIFTH CLOCK TOWER...
...THEN MY NEXT OPPO-NENT SHOULD BE...
VROOOOM

PUTT PUTT
PUTT PUTT

THE FIFTH CLOCK TOWER...
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
IT'S COMPLETELY RESTORED.
FSSSH
FSSSH
FSSSH
I KNEW IT... THE PHANTOM KNIGHT !
LOOKS LIKE WHAT WE HAVE HERE IS "THE NARUTAKI RETROSPECTIVE."

FWOOO

HOW DID YOU KNOW?
I KNEW WHEN I SAW DON DEATH, I STARTED GETTING SUSPICIOUS WHEN I SAW SHADOW BOLT.
BUT WHEN THE EARTH SHOOK, I WASN'T SURE.
THEN I FIGURED IT OUT. IF YOU HAD A MEGAMATON AS BIG AS SHADOW BOLT...
...YOU COULD CAUSE THE SAME TREMOR.
PRO-JECTING A MOTION PICTURE ON STEAM...
THE RED SCORPION USED THE SAME TRICK.

THEN THE PHAN-TOM KNIGHT, SHADOW BOLT, DON DEATH...
MY OPPO-NENTS FROM THE PAST...
ARE YOU A FAN ??
MAYBE. MAYBE NOT.
BUT I DO KNOW WHAT YOU LIKE!!
TAKE THIS !!
BLAMM
AH!
YOU'LL ONLY GET LING LING BACK IF YOU CATCH ME!!
.....

NARU-
TAKIIII!
HELP ME-
EEEEE!!
SHE'S
OUT-
SIDE
!!

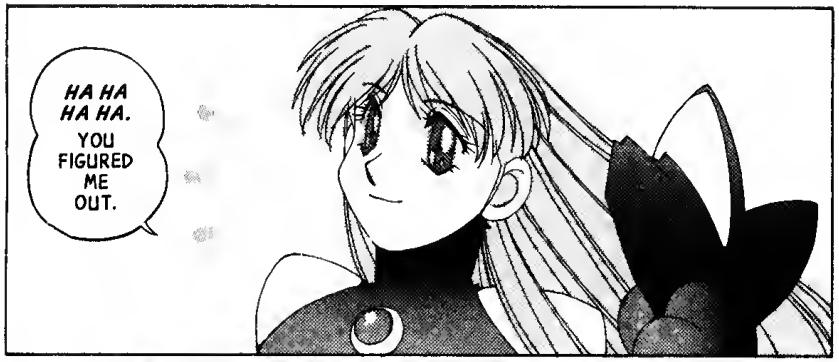
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
HELP
MEEEE!
NARU-
TAKIIII!
POOM

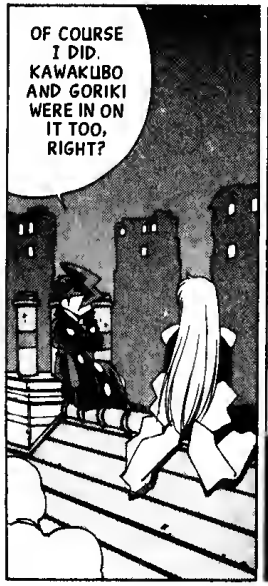
HELP
MEEE-
EEEEE!
TMP
TMP
KG
SH
KG
SH

NARU-
TAKIII-
IIII!
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
OKAY,
OKAY!
IT'S
A BIT
HIGH, BUT
I GUESS
I'LL
JUMP!

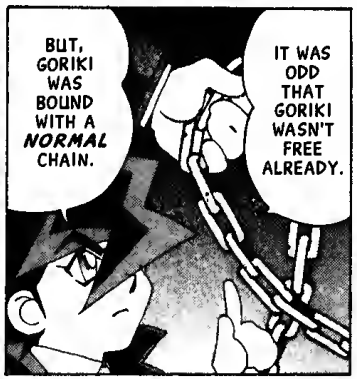
DMP
KRRR
SH
!!
WH-
WHAT
A
JUMP...
YOU
KNEW
I COULD
DO IT...

...LING
LING!
!!
DU
MP
BA-
TH
ONK
HELP
MEEEE!
NARU-
TAKIIII!

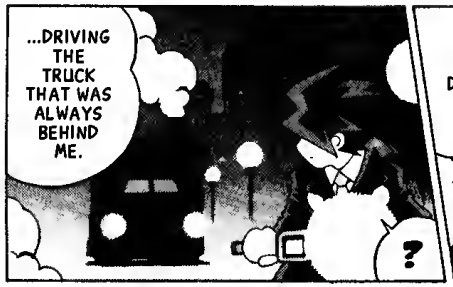

HA HA HA HA. YOU FIGURED ME OUT.

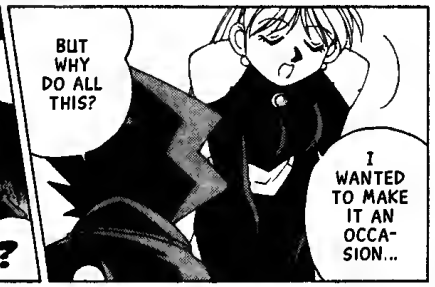

OF COURSE I DID. KAWAKUBO AND GORIKI WERE IN ON IT TOO, RIGHT?

AWWW. YOU SAW THROUGH THE WHOLE PLAN.
TOO BAD!


BUT, GORIKI WAS BOUND WITH A NORMAL CHAIN.
IT WAS ODD THAT GORIKI WASN'T FREE ALREADY.

AND THE TREMOR FROM SHADOW BOLT WAS ACTUALLY GORIKI, RIGHT?
FWUMP
GORIKI'S TRANSPORT AND THE OTHER DEVICES WERE KAWAKUBO...


...DRIVING THE TRUCK THAT WAS ALWAYS BEHIND ME.
?


BUT WHY DO ALL THIS?
I WANTED TO MAKE IT AN OCCASION...

AN OCCASION? WHAT FOR ??
DON'T BE SILLY...
...FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY!!

I CAN'T CONDONE IT THOUGH. IT WAS TOO DANGER-OUS.
NARUTAKI
SOMEONE COULD HAVE BEEN HURT.
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, SIR.
SORRY, NARU-TAKI.
RR
BUT THANK YOU. I'M REALLY TOUCHED.
YOU WERE ALL THINKING OF ME. SO...
WHERE'S MY PRESENT ??
WHAT !?!
I GAVE IT TO YOU AL-READY...
...MY... KISS!
THAT WAS IT? HA HA HA! YOU SHOULD KNOW WHAT I REALLY WANT, LING LING!
YOU KNOW, MODEL TRAINS, OR TOY CARS, OR...
SHINNG

Case 14: CLOSED

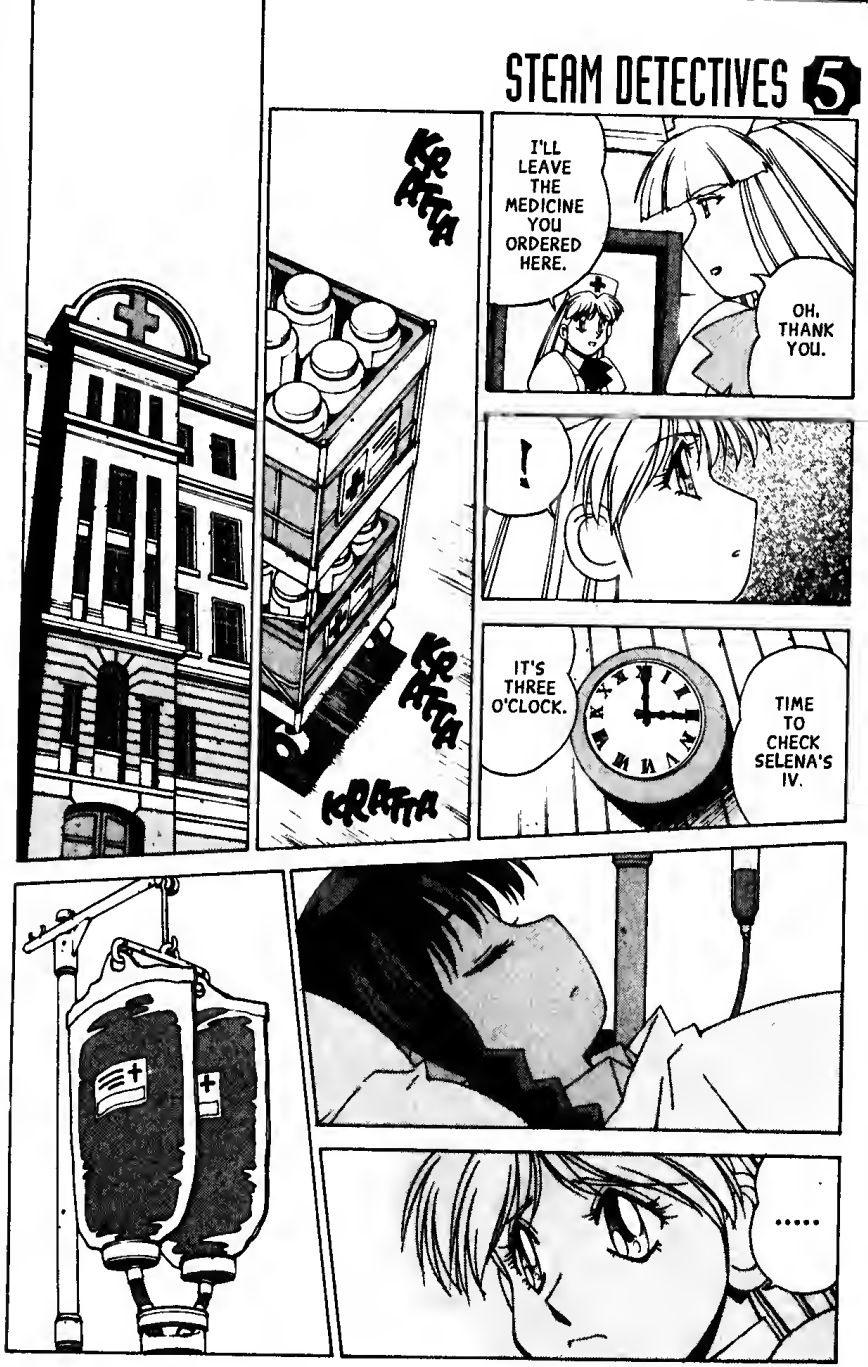
CASE 15, PART 1 EMERGENCY! VACCINE DELIVERY!

BUH
WH
MMM

KR RR
KR RR
GWOOOGHH

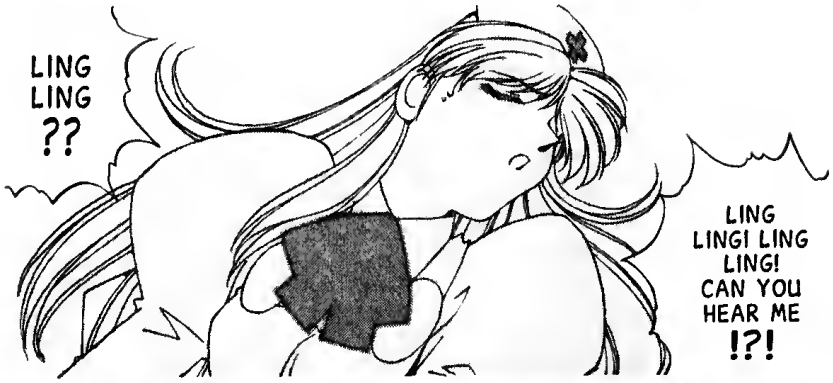
WHAT WAS THAT EXPLOSION?
GW OOO
OO GH
MAYBE WE USED TOO MUCH GUN POWDER
IMPOSSIBLE! I CONFIRMED IT!
HMM... PERHAPS...
...IT WAS CARRYING HEAVY COAL... MAYBE THE COAL WAS IGNITIED ...
GW OOO
OO GH
I-IN ANY CASE... WE NEED TO GET THE GOODS...

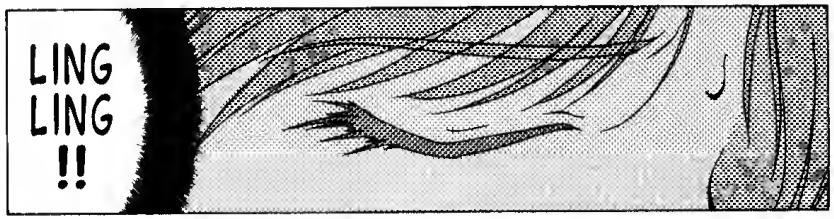
GOOD THING OUR OBJECTIVE WAS THE REAR CAR!
GOGOGO
GOGO
BUT NOW WE CAN'T REACH STEAM CITY.
THEN IT'S BACK TO ELEC-TRICAL CITY.
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT THAT. AT LEAST WE MANAGED TO STOP THE TRAIN...
KREEK
...ALTHOUGH THE EXPLOSION WAS UNEX-PECTED.
HERE'S THE CON-TAINER.
BUT HOW ARE WE GONNA GET IT TO STEAM CITY?
THIS MAY BE THE ONLY RAILWAY...
...BUT IT'S NOT THE ONLY ROAD.


KRAKA
KRAKA
KRAKA
I'LL LEAVE THE MEDICINE YOU ORDERED HERE.
OH, THANK YOU.
!
IT'S THREE O'CLOCK.
TIME TO CHECK SELENA'S IV.
.....

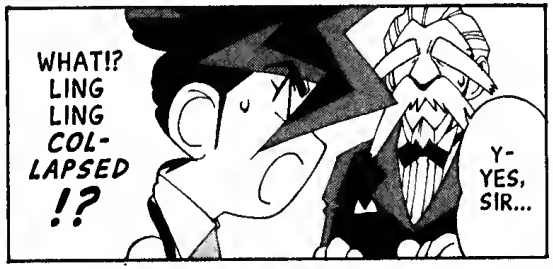
SSST
KA-CHAK
-SIGH-
WHAT'S WRONG, LING LING?
OH...I DIDN'T SEE YOU.
I WAS JUST THINKING HOW HARD IT MUST BE FOR SELENA TO STRUGGLE AGAINST THIS ILLNESS ALL HER LIFE.
IT IS...
IRUDO SYNDROME IS AN AWFUL FORM OF HEART DISEASE.
IN ORDER TO SURVIVE SHE NEEDS TWO BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS EVERY DAY. SHE'S NEVER SPENT A DAY OUTSIDE OF THIS HOSPITAL.

SELENA ...
LING LING, MRS. SHELBY OF ROOM 506 IS CALLING FOR YOU!!
O-OH! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!!
I SHOULD GO TAKE CARE OF HER.
LING LING.
YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING PALE RECENTLY.
O-OF COURSE. I'M FINE. JUST FINE!
EX-CUSE ME...
ARE YOU GETTING ENOUGH REST ?
WHUD
!

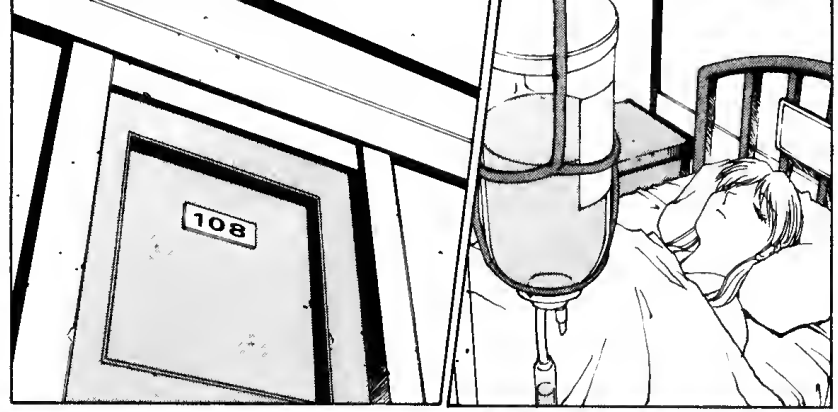

LING LING ??
LING LING! LING LING! CAN YOU HEAR ME !?!


LING LING !!

ナルタキ
DETECTIVE AGENCY


WHAT!? LING LING COL-LAPSED !?
Y-YES, SIR...

I'M GOING!! SHE'S IN CITY HOSPITAL No. 8, RIGHT!?
PUTT PUTT
VROOM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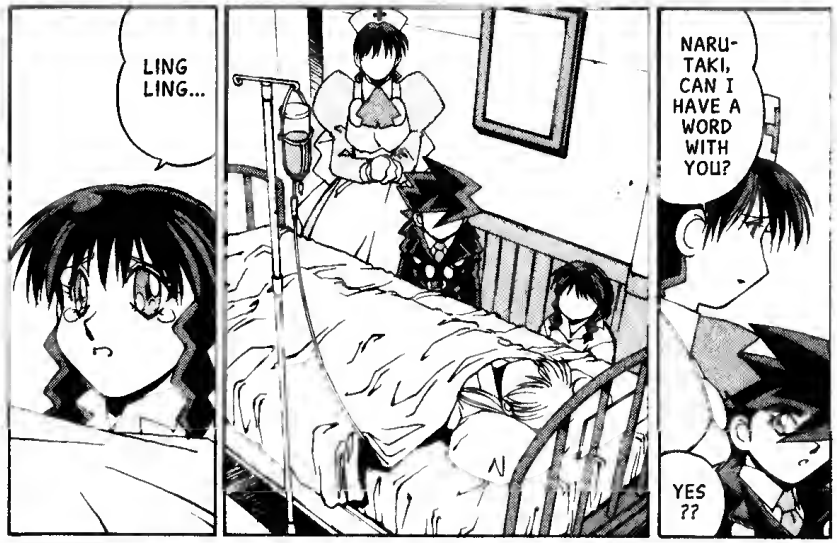

LING LING...
NARU-TAKI, CAN I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU?
YES ??

SELENA, LING LING IS FINE. SHE WAS JUST A LITTLE TIRED.
REALLY ??
REALLY. NOW GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM LIKE A GOOD GIRL.
OKAY.

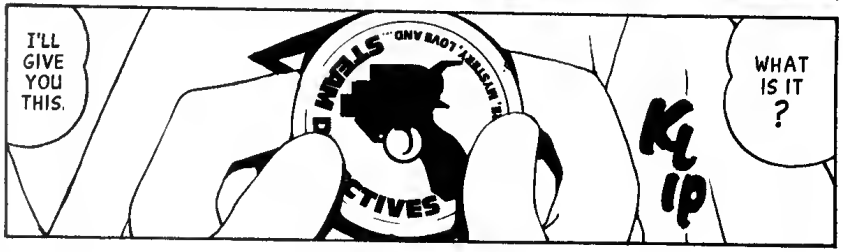
I AM SO SORRY ABOUT LING LING. WE ARE ALWAYS SHORT OF PERMANENT NURSING STAFF.
URSE'S STATION
STEAM CITY HOSPITAL NO. 8
IT DOESN'T HELP THAT SHE'S IN CHARGE OF PATIENTS WHO ARE SEVERELY ILL. THEY REQUIRE HER CONSTANT CARE.
I SEE...
ESPECIALLY THE GIRL THAT WAS JUST HERE... SELENA NEEDS DAILY BLOOD TRANSFU-SIONS.
THAT CHILD DOES ??
LING LING SPENDS AS MUCH TIME AS SHE CAN WITH HER.
KRATTL
I HEARD YOU'RE A COFFEE DRINKER.
OH... THANK YOU.
I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT YOU FROM LING LING.
I'VE ALWAYS WISHED THERE WERE NURSES AS COM-PETENT AS LING LING.
THE TRUTH IS THERE AREN'T... BUT WHERE ELSE CAN OUR PATIENTS GO?
.....

HOW ARE YOU FEELING, LING LING?
I'M FINE. I'M SORRY TO WORRY YOU.
IT WAS SOMETHING OF A SHOCK. THE MIGHTY LING LING COLLAPSES!
HA HA HA!
WHAT'S THAT SUP-POSED TO MEAN!?
HM ?
WHY YOU'RE ...
SELENA.
ARE YOU OKAY, LING LING...? I'M...I'M...
I'M JUST FINE, SELENA.

IT'S ALL MY FAULT... YOU HAD TO WORK HARD BECAUSE I'M SICK.
I'M GOING TO DIE ANYWAY, SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK AFTER ME... I'M SORRY. I'M SO SORRY!
SNIFF
SNIFF

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT! AND DON'T SAY YOU'RE GOING TO DIE!! YOU MUSTN'T EVER SAY THINGS LIKE THAT!
LING LING...

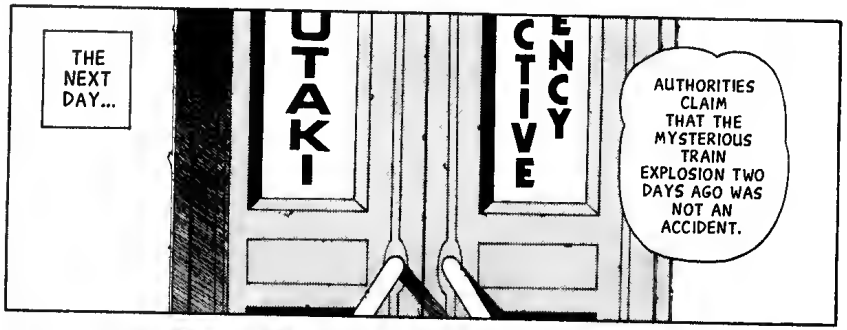
WE BOTH HAVE TO LIVE.
I'LL DO MY BEST, IF YOU DO YOUR BEST TOO!
.....
A- ALL RIGHT.

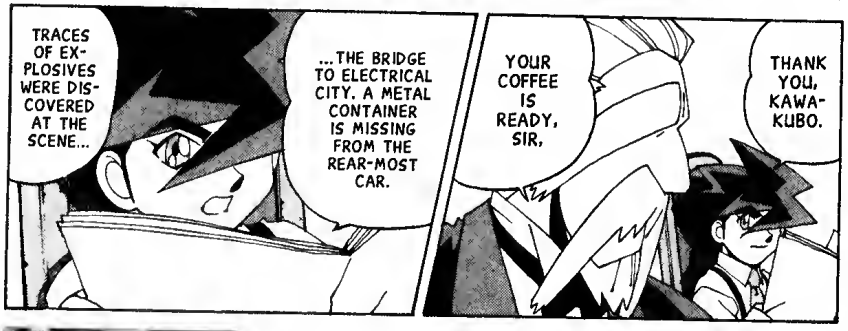

I'LL GIVE YOU THIS.
STEAM DETECTIVES
WHAT IS IT ?
KU IP

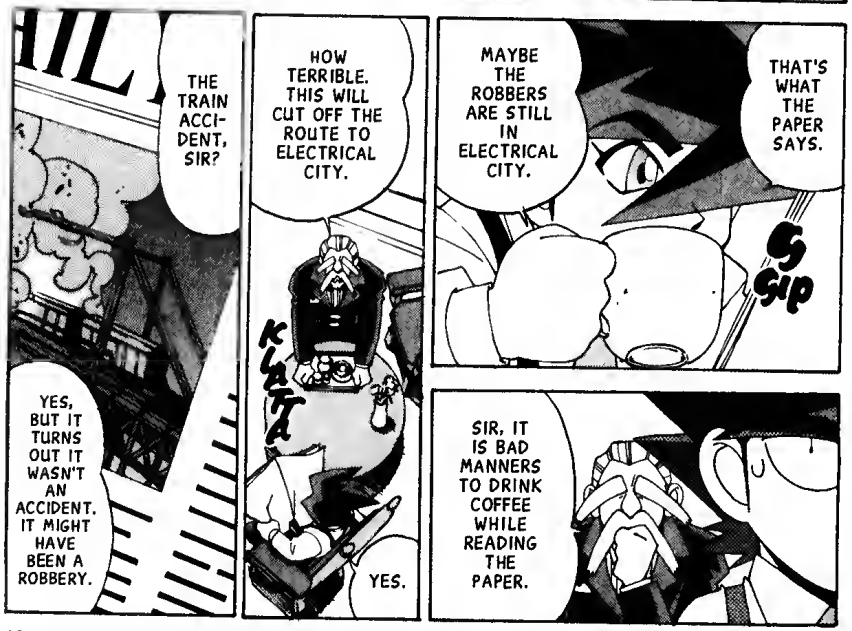
IT'S A STEAM DETECTIVES BADGE. NOW YOU'RE ONE OF US!
WOW !
IT'S AGAINST THE RULES TO CRY OR GIVE UP. AGENTS OF THE NARUTAKI AGENCY HAVE TO BE STRONG!!
OKAY!
ISN'T THAT NICE, SELENA !?

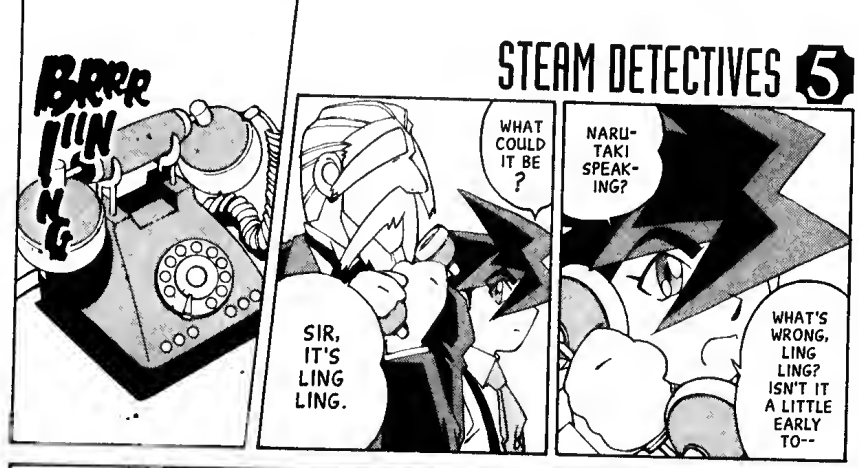
THANK YOU, NARUTAKI. THANK YOU, LING LING.
I'M GOING TO BE STRONG. I WON'T CRY ANYMORE!

HA HA HA!

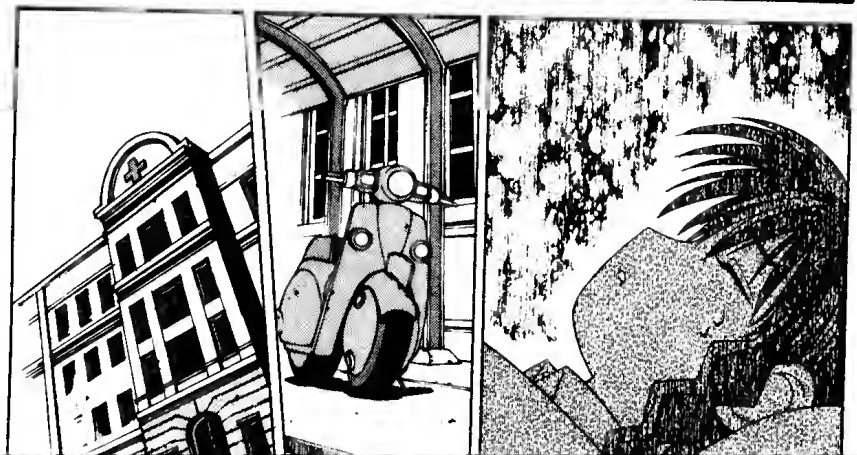

THE NEXT DAY...
UTAKI
CTIVE ENCY
AUTHORITIES CLAIM THAT THE MYSTERIOUS TRAIN EXPLOSION TWO DAYS AGO WAS NOT AN ACCIDENT.


TRACES OF EXPLOSIVES WERE DISCOVERED AT THE SCENE...
...THE BRIDGE TO ELECTRICAL CITY. A METAL CONTAINER IS MISSING FROM THE REAR-MOST CAR.
YOUR COFFEE IS READY, SIR,
THANK YOU, KAWAKUBO.


THE TRAIN ACCIDENT, SIR?
HOW TERRIBLE. THIS WILL CUT OFF THE ROUTE TO ELECTRICAL CITY.
MAYBE THE ROBBERS ARE STILL IN ELECTRICAL CITY.
THAT'S WHAT THE PAPER SAYS.
SIP
KLATA
YES, BUT IT TURNS OUT IT WASN'T AN ACCIDENT. IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A ROBBERY.
YES.
SIR, IT IS BAD MANNERS TO DRINK COFFEE WHILE READING THE PAPER.


BRRR IIN G
WHAT COULD IT BE ?
NARU-TAKI SPEAK-ING?
SIR, IT'S LING LING.
WHAT'S WRONG, LING LING? ISN'T IT A LITTLE EARLY TO--

SELENA'S IN CRITICAL CON-DITION !?!
ALL RIGHT! I'M HEADED THERE NOW!! YOU WAIT THERE!!

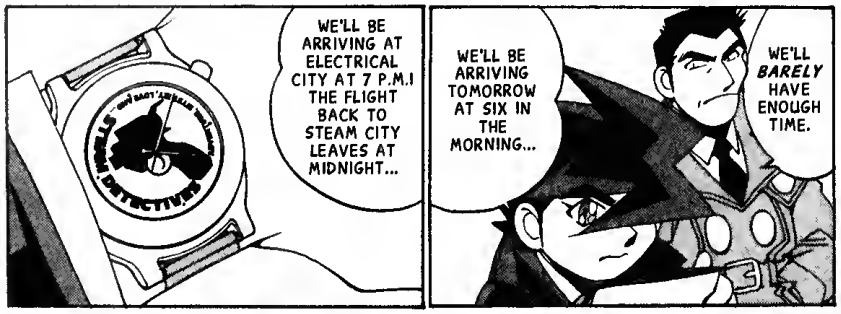


IRUDO SYNDROME CAUSED HER CONDITION TO SUDDENLY DETERIORATE. THIS MORNING, SHE LOST CONSCIOUSNESS.
THE MEDICINE AND BLOOD TRANSFERS WORKED TO SLOW DOWN THE DISEASE UP UNTIL NOW, BUT...
ISN'T THERE SOME WAY TO SAVE HER?
I READ THAT THEY DEVELOPED A VACCINE FOR IRUDO SYNDROME RECENTLY IN ELECTRICAL CITY.
OF COURSE, WE ASKED THEM TO DELIVER IT TO US IMMEDIATELY, BUT WITH THE TRAIN INCIDENT...
THE TRAIN EXPLOSION... ??
ALL COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORTATION HAVE BEEN CUT OFF. THEY'LL NEVER KNOW HOW URGENT OUR SITUATION IS.
WILL THAT VACCINE FROM ELECTRICAL CITY SAVE SELENA'S LIFE!?
YES... BUT SHE DOESN'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT...
TWENTY-FOUR HOURS... HER HEART WILL ONLY LAST AT MOST ONE MORE DAY.
!!

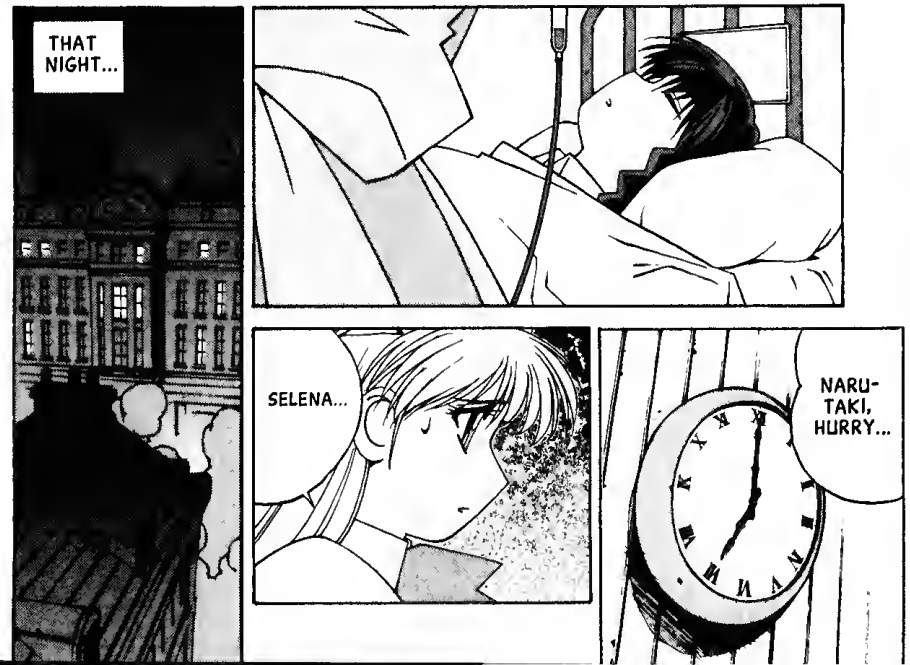
I'LL GET THE VACCINE FOR YOU! I'LL GO TO ELECTRICAL CITY!
NARU-TAKI...
WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO GO?
ABSO-LUTELY !!
HOW COULD YOU GET THERE?
IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE BY LAND OR SEA BECAUSE ELECTRICAL CITY IS LAND-LOCKED, BUT I CAN FLY.
FLY ??
THERE'S A DAILY SIX-HOUR ZEPPELIN FLIGHT BETWEEN STEAM CITY AND ELECTRICAL CITY.
I SHOULD BE ABLE TO RETURN WITHIN 24 HOURS.
I DON'T THINK TODAY'S FLIGHT HAS LEFT YET.
I'LL BE BACK SOON !!

EH ?
NARU-TAKI!! I'M GOING TOO. I'M SO MOVED!!
WA
AAAA
AAHH
D-D-DETEC-TIVE ONIGA-WARA, WHY ARE YOU--?
I HEARD THAT LING LING WAS WORKING HERE. I CUT MY FINGER SO I THOUGHT I'D HAVE HER LOOK AT IT.
ALL THAT TINY CUT NEEDS IS A BANDAGE!
WELL, ANYWAY... I HEARD IT ALL, AND I'M GOING TO HELP YOU GET THAT VACCINE FOR SELENA!!
BUT... UH...
WE HAVE TO HURRY, NARUTAK!! THE ZEPPELIN IS LEAVING SOON!!
AH!
I'LL BE BACK SOON... LING LING.
KA-CHUD
BE CARE-FUL... NARU-TAKI...

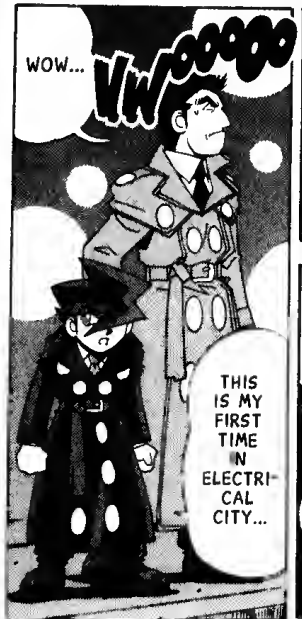
OH, BOY! OH, BOY! LOOK AT THIS VIEW!
DETEC-TIVE ONIGAWARA, YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOUT.
OH, SORRY. THIS IS MY FIRST TIME ON A ZEPPELIN.
WE'RE NOT HERE FOR THE SCENERY.
I KNOW. WE HAVE TO RETRIEVE THE VACCINE!!
LOOK, NARUTAKI!! A COW! A COW!!
I DON'T THINK HE GETS IT.


WE'LL BE ARRIVING AT ELECTRICAL CITY AT 7 P.M.! THE FLIGHT BACK TO STEAM CITY LEAVES AT MIDNIGHT...
WE'LL BE ARRIVING TOMORROW AT SIX IN THE MORNING...
WE'LL *BARELY* HAVE ENOUGH TIME.

8 A.M. TOMORROW IS OUR TIME LIMIT. WE HAVE TO BE AT THE HOSPITAL THEN.
SO, BARRING ANY TROUBLE, WE'LL BE FINE.
LET'S GO EAT.
YES. BARRING ANY TROUBLE ...

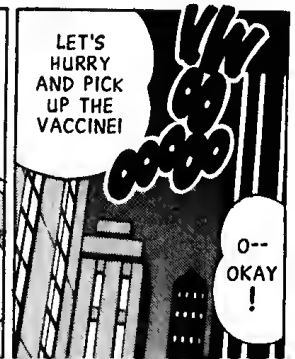

THAT NIGHT...
SELENA...
NARU-TAKI, HURRY...

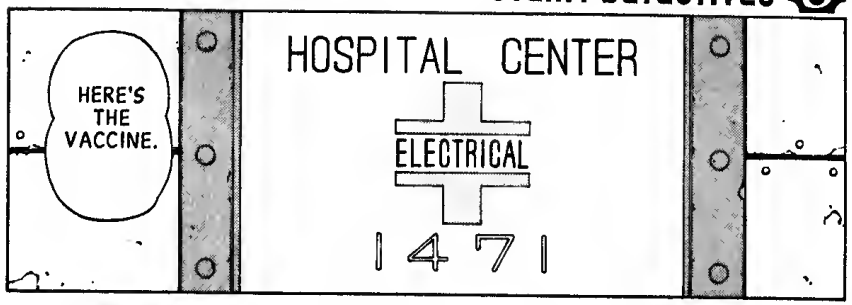
IWoo oo
IIIIII

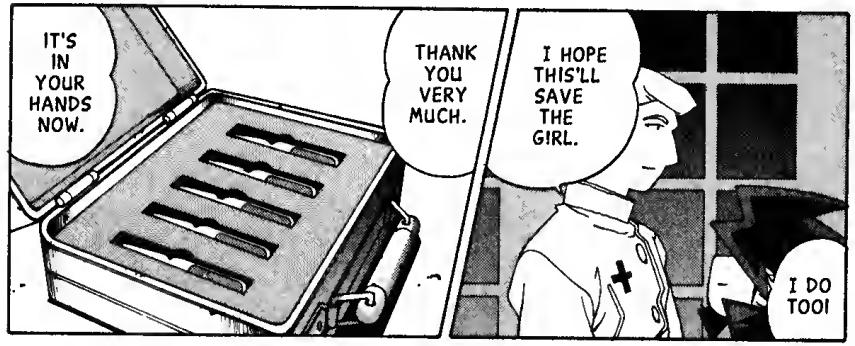

WOW...
IW'OOOOO
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME IN ELECTRICAL CITY...

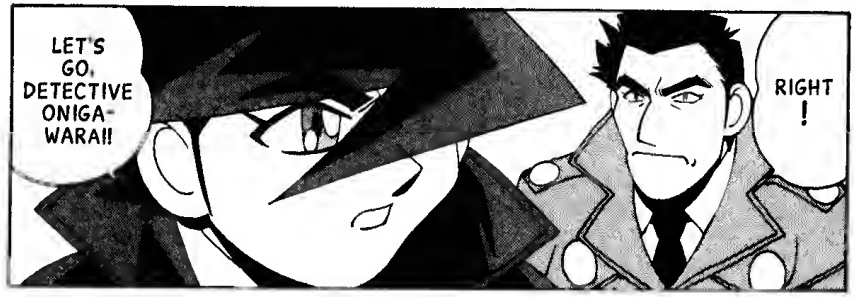
NARUTAKI, DON'T STAND THERE GAWKING!
THEY'LL THINK YOU'RE A COUNTRY BUMPKIN!!

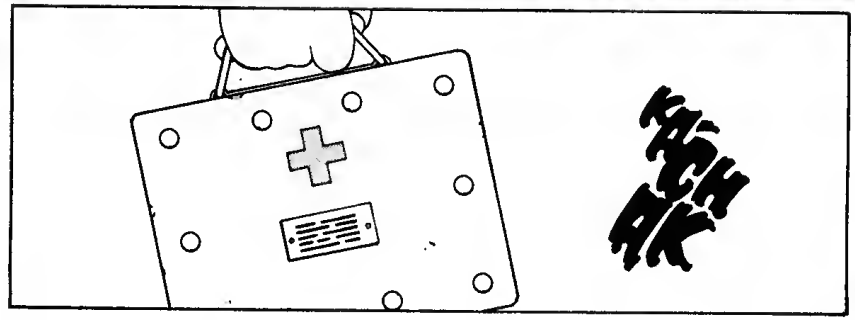
YOU'RE ONE TO TALK!
HAH!


LET'S HURRY AND PICK UP THE VACCINE!
O--OKAY!


HERE'S THE VACCINE.
HOSPITAL CENTER
ELECTRICAL
1471

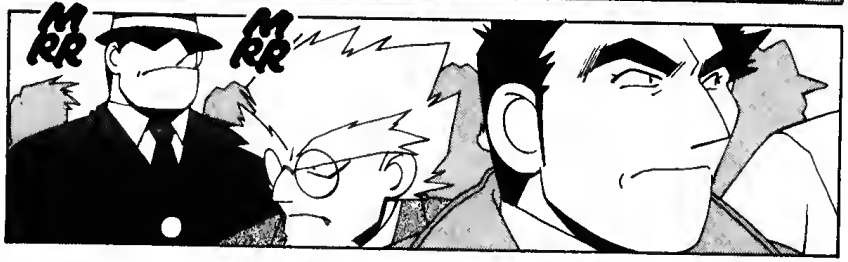

IT'S IN YOUR HANDS NOW.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I HOPE THIS'LL SAVE THE GIRL.
I DO TOO!

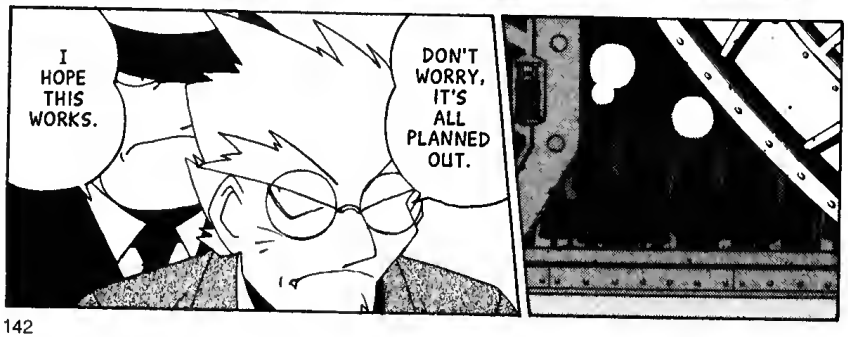

LET'S GO, DETECTIVE ONIGAWARA!!
RIGHT!


GACHA

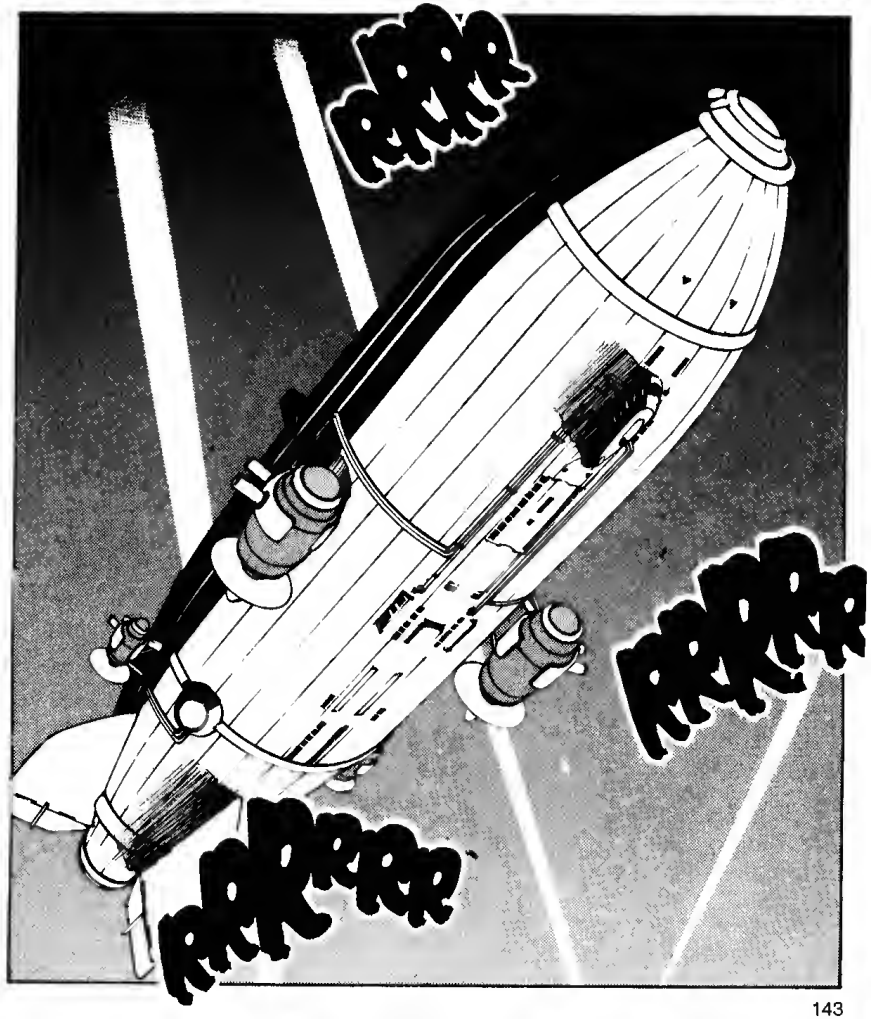
RRR
RRR
RRR
RRR
RRR

FLIGHT OLYMPIA TO STEAM CITY WILL BE DEPARTING AT 12 A.M. AT GATE NUMBER 4.
IT'S PACKED !
LET'S GO, DETECTIVE.


MRR
MRR


I HOPE THIS WORKS.
DON'T WORRY, IT'S ALL PLANNED OUT.

FLIGHT OLYMPIA NOW DEPARTING FOR STEAM CITY.


RRRR
RRRRRR
RRRRRRRR

STEAM DETECTIVES PRESS

SPECIAL REPORT ON ELECTRICAL CITY

Electrical City is a grand commercial center to the east. As a result of its geothermal-generator technology, the city developed rapidly and its extraordinary supply of electrical energy is consumed 24 hours a day. At night, this beautifully illuminated city never sleeps. Visitors spend their foreign currency freely at the casinos which stand as the city's main source of income.

In recent years, Electrical City has also become a cultural center where internationally acclaimed theater and film stars have made their debuts. One such star is actress Wong Shan Lang, whose debut feature film "Nocturne for the Winds" (produced by New World Electrical Film Co.) became a worldwide hit.

THE FLAVOR OF THE MOUNTAINS!

Our milk cows are bred in the fields and springs of the Lorraine Mountains, one of the world's most beautiful works of nature. We will deliver fresh milk from the mountains to your home! Start your day with a bottle of the nutritious Mistral Milk!

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CASE 15, PART 2 DANGER IN THE CLOUDS!! NO ESCAPE FOR NARUTAKI!!

XII
I WONDER IF THEY BOARDED THE RETURN FLIGHT SAFELY...
IT'S AFTER 1 A.M. ...
HANG IN THERE, SELENA ...
I KNOW NARUTAKI WILL BRING THE VACCINE!
THEN YOU'LL BE ALL BETTER!!
SELENA...

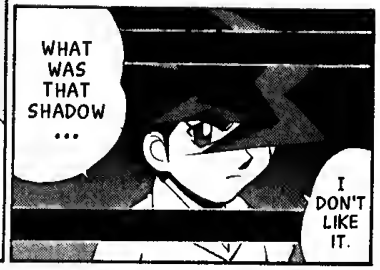
CASE 15, PART 2 DANGER IN THE CLOUDS!! NO ESCAPE FOR NARUTAKI!!

SHA TCH
NOBODY'S THERE ?

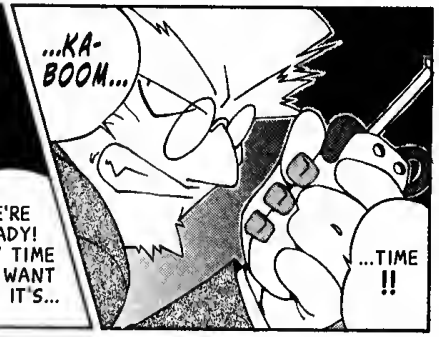
WHASSUP, NARUTAKI? IF YA DON'T GET YER BEDDY-BYE TIME, YOU'LL BE GRUMPY TOMORROW!
BA-
BIIIIP

YOU CAN BE SUCH A CHILD!
HMHU
SCH NOR RRR RRR RR

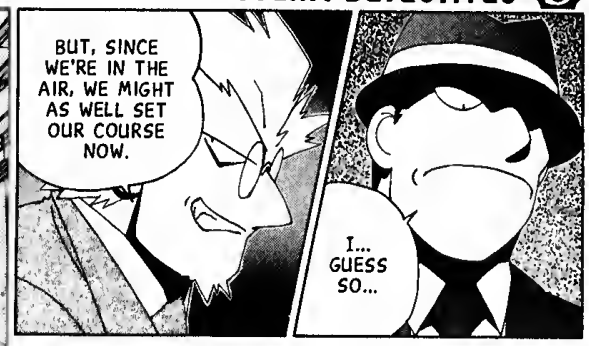
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S KEEPING ME UP ALL NIGHT.

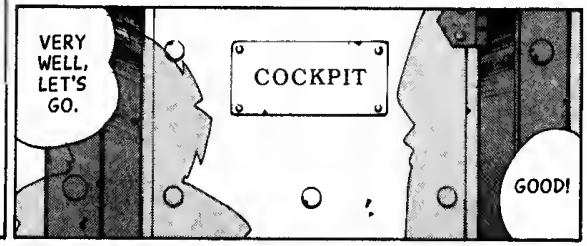

WHAT WAS THAT SHADOW ...
I DON'T LIKE IT.

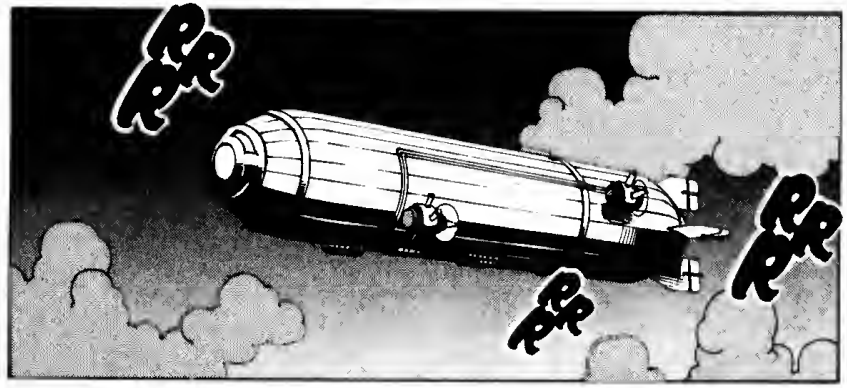
I FINISHED SETTING IT UP.
WE'RE READY! ANY TIME WE WANT TO IT'S...


...KA-BOOM...
...TIME !!

AREN'T WE GOING TO STEAM CITY ?
STEAM CITY IS ONLY A TRANSIT POINT. IT'S NOT OUR DESTIN-ATION.


BUT, SINCE WE'RE IN THE AIR, WE MIGHT AS WELL SET OUR COURSE NOW.
I... GUESS SO...


VERY WELL, LET'S GO.
COCKPIT
GOOD!


RRRR
RRRR
RRRR

SOME-THING'S GOING ON!
MY SLEUTH INSTINCTS ARE TELLING ME THAT SOMETHING'S WRONG!

UN GH ...
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN MASS MURDER. I SIMPLY WANT YOU TO CHANGE COURSE.
WE WANT TO GET TO TECHLAND VAL-HALLA.
ONCE WE'RE THERE WE'LL LET EVERY-BODY GO.
IF YOU DON'T FOLLOW ORDERS, WE'LL SET OFF BOMBS.
CAP-TAIN ...
SO YOU'RE FROM TECH-LAND!?
AN ISLAND OF CRIMINALS! WHO'D BELIEVE A WORD YOU SAY?
LET ME TELL YOU A SECRET ABOUT US.
WE NEVER LIE.
KLIK

BLAMM
SKRRR
RRRCH
!!
KR
EECH
ENGINE 4 IS NOW OFFLINE. BUT DON'T WORRY, OUR EXPLOSIVES ARE CAREFULLY MEASURED.
WE WON'T CRASH FROM THAT ONE.
BUT THE OTHER THREE...
...ARE A DIFFER-ENT STORY.

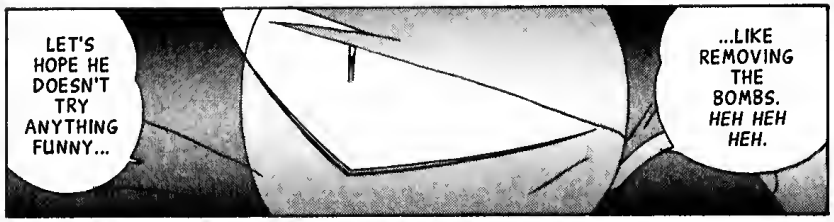
COCKPIT
BOMBS PLANTED ON THE ENGINES OF THE ZEPPELIN!? UN-BELIEVABLE!
THE CULPRITS HAVE THE DETONATOR SWITCH!! I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING...
I'M AFRAID THE EXPLOSION WOKE YOUR PASSEN-GERS.
PLEASE ASSEMBLE THEM ON THE CENTRAL DECK SO I CAN EXPLAIN A FEW THINGS.
HMPH ...
RRRR
RRRR
RRRR
WHERE DID NARUTAKI GO? HE WASN'T IN BED...
WHY WERE WE ALL TOLD TO GO HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?
MRRRR
MRRR
MRRR

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE HAVE HIJACKED THIS ZEPPELIN!
YOU NEEDN'T WORRY... YOUR LIVES WILL BE IN NO DANGER SO LONG AS WE REACH OUR DESTIN-ATION.
OUR NEW DESTINATION IS VALHALLA! I APOLOGIZE FOR THE DELAY, BUT YOUR FLIGHT SHOULD ARRIVE AT STEAM CITY AT NOON.
BUT WHAT IS SIX HOURS COM-PARED TO ONE'S LIFE?
MRRR
MRRR
MRRR
MRRR
IN THE MEAN-TIME, PLEASE REMAIN QUIET...
...OR YOU SHALL ALL DIE.
NOON... !! THAT'LL BE TOO LATE!
DAMN IT.
8 A.M. IS OUR TIME LIMIT FOR THAT GIRL!
WHAT'LL I DO !?!
NARU-TAKI! WHERE'D YOU GO !?!
RRR
RRR
RRR

THEY LOST CONTACT WITH THE ZEPPELIN ??
WHAT ?
THAT CAN'T BE!
NO REGULAR SIGNALS OR RADIO CONTACT.
HAS THERE BEEN AN ACCIDENT ?
OH, NO... NARU-TAKI...
THEY'VE DISPATCHED AN AERIAL SEARCH PARTY.
IT'S 3 A.M.
WE ONLY HAVE FIVE MORE HOURS...
!!
OH, NARUTAKI... I HOPE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT...
PLEASE COME SOON WITH THE VACCINE FOR SELENA...

RRR
RRR
RRR
TAK TAK TAK
IT WON'T WORK.
GRRR
MMMP
AAA AAH!
WE BLASTED ALL THE ANTENNAS !
GRRRRRR
AI EE EE!
CAPTAIN'S CABIN
THAT TELEGRAPH OPERATOR WAS UP TO NO GOOD.
HMM? WHAT'S UP?
I WAS JUST LOOKING OVER THE PASSEN-GER LIST...

THERE'S AN INTER-ESTING ONE...
...THAT BOY DETECTIVE, NARUTAKI!
!!
HA HA HA HAA! UN-BELIEVABLE.

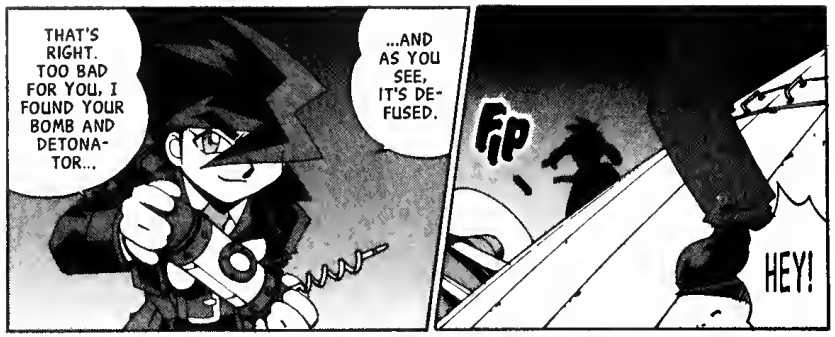

LET'S HOPE HE DOESN'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY...
...LIKE REMOVING THE BOMBS. HEH HEH HEH.

H-HE WOULDN'T ...
DID YOU SEE ANY KIDS IN THAT CROWD? I ONLY SAW A GIRL.
TMP
HM PH ...

IF WE DON'T DELIVER THE GOODS TO THE ISLAND... WE'RE DEAD...
...SO DON'T GET IN OUR WAY, NARU-TAKI.

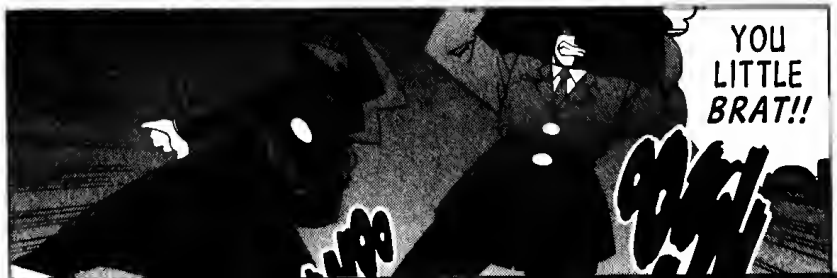
GOOD !
CHANK
I WAS ABLE TO REMOVE THAT ONE!!
VWAP
VWAP
FOR-TUNATELY THEY'RE ONLY USING A REMOTE CONTROL DETONATOR.
VWAP
VWAP
VWAP
KRSH

!!
RRRR
RRRR
RRRR
SO YOU'RE THE BOY CALLED NARU-TAKI?


THAT'S RIGHT. TOO BAD FOR YOU, I FOUND YOUR BOMB AND DETONATOR...
...AND AS YOU SEE, IT'S DEFUSED.
FIP
HEY!

D-DON"T THINK YOU'VE *WON*, NARUTAKI!
THERE'S STILL *TWO* OTHER BOMBS! AND WE STUCK THEM TO THE ENGINES SO THAT YOU'LL *NEVER* FIND THEM...

OH...
...DID YOU?
NO, I...
...DAMN !!
HYA AHH!


YOU LITTLE *BRAT!!*

HA!

TRPP
WAA AAH !!
WH UMP
AGG !!
SNA

AH! AAA AAH HHH !!
SHLIP
SHLIP
SHLIP
H-- HELP ME...

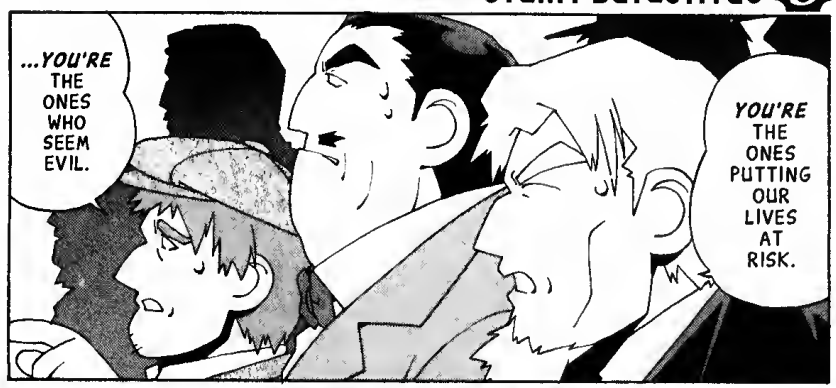
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? I'M REELING YOU BACK UP.
THAT'S RIGHT, NARUTAKI. REEL HIM UP NICE AND EASY.
UNLESS YOU WANT TO TAKE A FIELD TRIP TO HELL.
ST KICK
ST KICK
ST KICK
!!
.....
TH-THAT WAS CLOSE!
RRR
RRR
RRR

KLUNK
KA-CHI NG
KA-CHI NG
YOU'RE SO SMALL, WHERE DO YOU FIT ALL THOSE GADGETS?
YOU'RE A HUMAN ARSENAL
.....
WE'LL TAKE THESE ...
YOU BETTER STAY PUT, FOR THE SAKE OF THE PASSENGERS' LIVES...
...THE BOY DETECTIVE MUST PROTECT THE INNOCENT FROM EVIL, RIGHT?
HA HA HA HA HA!

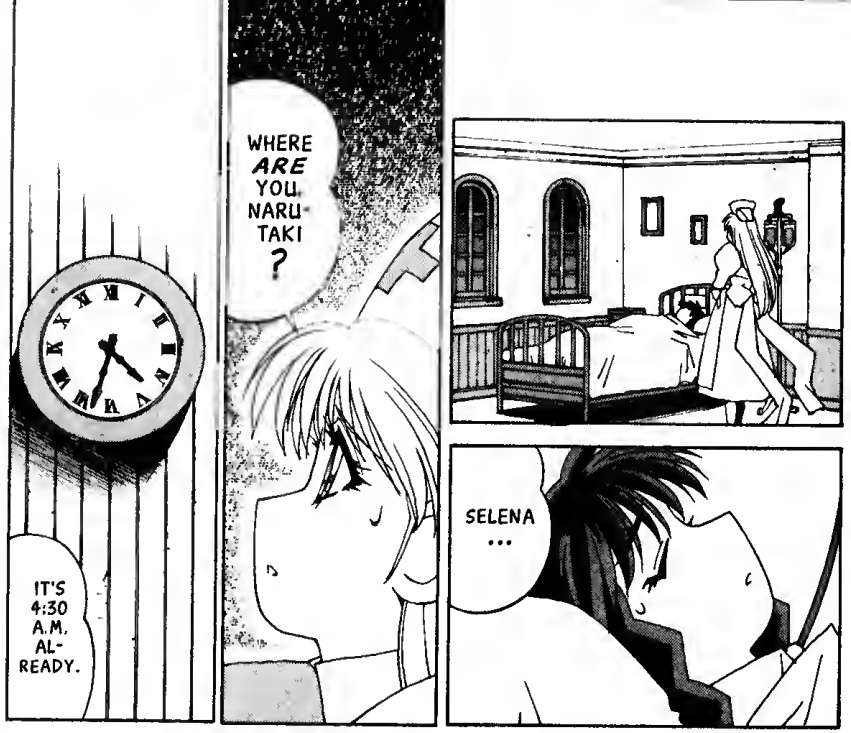
KA-CHA KA-
CHAK CHAK
.....
RRR
RRR
HEY, NARU-TAKI! NARU-TAKI!
OH... DETEC-TIVE ONIGA-WARA!
THEY CAUGHT YOU TOO, HUH?
THIS IS BAD! WHAT'LL WE DO!?
WHEN LAST I SAW THE TIME IT WAS 4 A.M.
SO WE ONLY HAVE FOUR HOURS...

I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THIS AIR-SHIP IS, BUT...
...IF THEY'RE HEADING TO VAL-HALLA...
IF THEY'RE FROM VALHALLA ...
DETEC-TIVE, WHAT ABOUT YOUR GUN?
YOU COULD SHOOT THE LOCK...
NOPE. THEY DID A BODY-SEARCH.
THEY TOOK MY GUN AND MY CUFFS.
THOSE ARE PROBABLY THE CUFFS HOLDING YOU.
OH!
U-- UMM ...
MRR MRR MRR MRR
WH-- WHAT IS IT ?
CAN WE ASK NARU-TAKI TO STAY STILL?

THEY JUST WANT TO GO TO VALHALLA. THEN THEY'LL LET US GO HOME.
NOBODY'S GOING TO *DIE* FROM A SIX-HOUR DELAY.
NOBODY ON THE *SHIP* WILL DIE, ANY-WAY...
WE ALL KNOW WHAT A BRILLIANT DETECTIVE NARUTAKI IS. HOW-EVER...
...THINK OF *OUR* LIVES AND JUST KEEP STILL!
SOME-TIMES, IT'S OKAY TO LET A BAD GUY GO.
....
AND *NOW* IS ONE SUCH TIME!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. PEOPLE FROM VALHALLA ARE RUTHLESS MERCHANTS OF DEATH!
THEY'LL NEVER KEEP *THEIR* END OF THE DEAL.
ONCE THEY'RE DONE WITH YOU, THEY'LL KILL YOU.
THEY SAID THEY NEVER LIE... AND IT'S OUR ONLY WAY TO SURVIVE!
S-SO YOU'RE GOING TO TRUST *CRIMINALS* OVER US?
THE WAY WE SEE IT...


...*YOU'RE* THE ONES WHO SEEM EVIL.
YOU'RE THE ONES PUTTING OUR LIVES AT RISK.

WHA-- ??
RRR
RRR


IT'S 4:30 A.M. AL-READY.
WHERE ARE YOU, NARU-TAKI ?
SELENA ...
JUST HOLD ON! REAL SOON...
...NARU-TAKI WILL BE HERE WITH THE VACCINE.
SO YOU JUST HANG IN THERE, SELENA ...

RRRR RRRR RRRR
SORRY, NARUTAKI. WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LET YOU LIVE.
RRR!
YOU'RE TOO DANGEROUS. WHO KNOWS WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN WITH YOU AROUND.
GOOD-BYE, NARU-TAKI.
IF I'M GOING TO DIE, COULDN'T YOU AT LEAST TAKE THESE CUFFS OFF?
CHANG
THEY HURT MY WRISTS.
AFRAID NOT. I CAN'T TAKE CHANCES AROUND YOU, YOU'RE ONE PAIN-IN-THE-NECK KID!
AT LEAST THEY'RE YOUR FRIEND'S HAND-CUFFS.
NARU-TAKI ...

STEAM DETECTIVES PRESS

TECHLAND VALHALLA MAKES ITS MOVE!!

Techland Valhalla has an infamous international reputation. For much of its history it served as a penal colony, and eventually, it became a haven for some of the world's most notorious criminals, many of whom are arms dealers. According to rumor, the entire island nation is so heavily armed that other city-states and countries can no longer intercede in its affairs. The suspects behind the "Steel Bridge Bombing" and the "Olympia Hijacking," Carlos and Wolf, are reportedly from Valhalla. The Imperial Special Investigations Squad has been pursuing these two Class-A international fugitives for months.

WOLF CARLOS

According to authorities, the code name for Valhalla's leader is "Monster." Even the most heinous criminals are terrified of this mysterious leader who is also known as "The Prince of Techland." One strange fact is that Monster's right-hand man, Christopher (Chris), known as the Demon of Darkness, has not surfaced in the past few years.

FORCED LANDING OF OLYMPIA

BRIDGE DESTROYED BY BOMBS

AN APOLOGY AND ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL AIRSHIP ASSOCIATION

We of the IAA would like to express our heartfelt joy thet the passengers end crew of the hijecked Olympie flight of lest month ere all sefe and sound. We would also like to teke this opportunity to announce new initietives to increase security, so that you cen be essured of safety on your airship flights.

Don Regal, president of the International Airship Association

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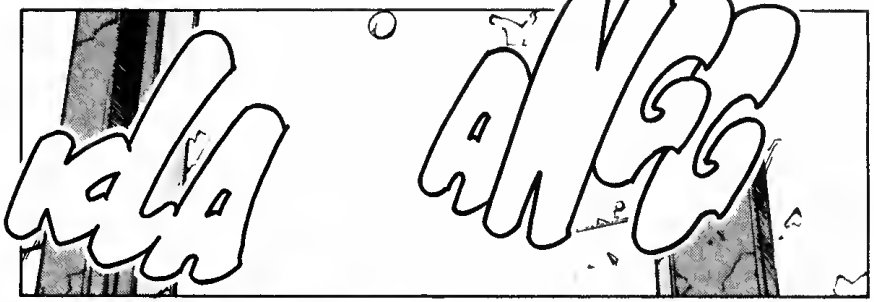
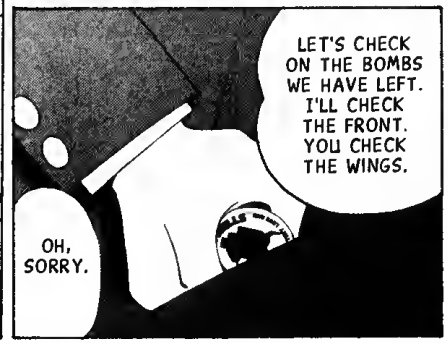
AND WHEN OUR PLANE PICKS US UP, WHAT'LL WE DO WITH THE PASSEN-GERS?
WHAT ELSE? THEY GO DOWN IN FLAMES WITH THE AIRSHIP.
I KNEW THEY NEVER INTENDED TO LET US GO...

CASE 15, PART 3 THE COME-BACK KID! NARUTAKI'S LAST CHANCE!!



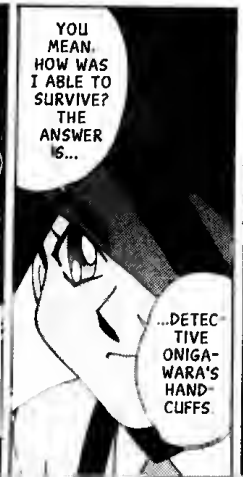


I DON'T SEE...
...ANY-THING WRONG HERE.
IT'S 5:30 A.M. ...ONLY TWO MORE HOURS TO VALHALLA.
YEAH.
BRING OUR SUITCASES. THE SOONER WE'RE READY THE BETTER.
OKAY.
NO! NO!!
WHY AM I SO USELESS IN THESE SITUA-TIONS!?

!!
IT'S YOU!
WHAT !?!
OUR SUIT-CASES ARE GONE!!
THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE !!
IF WE DON'T HAVE WHAT WE CAME FOR, THE KID'S GONNA KILL US!
THIS IS BAD!!
IS THIS WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?
OH, YEAH! THAT'S THE ONE!
THANKS, MAN! YOU'RE A LIFE--
--SAVER ...

N-N-
N-N-
N--
IT'S "NARU-TAKI" ...

TH-THAT'S RIGHT! NARU-TAKI...
HOW !?

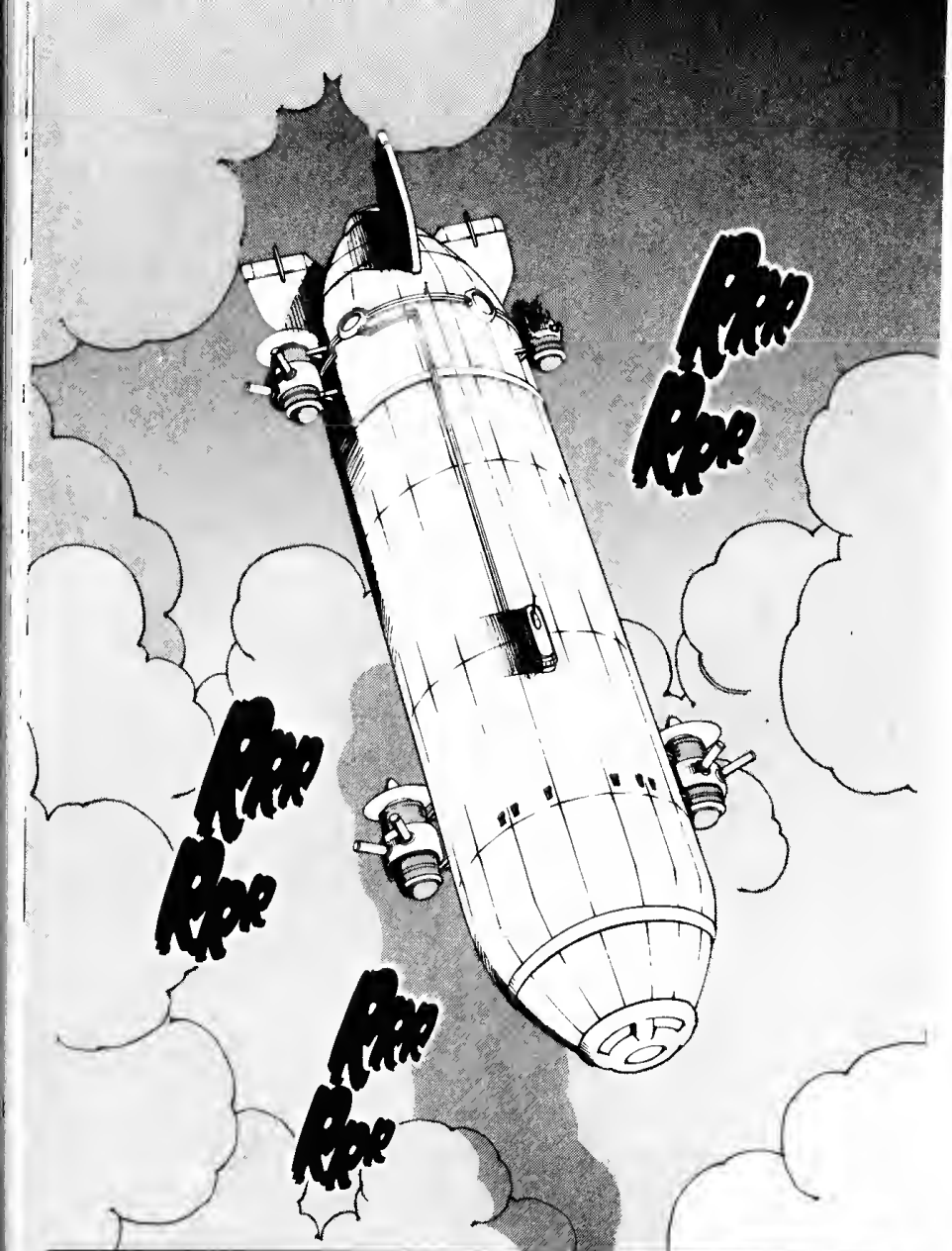

YOU MEAN, HOW WAS I ABLE TO SURVIVE? THE ANSWER IS...
...DETEC-TIVE ONIGA-WARA'S HAND-CUFFS.

WHAT ABOUT MY HAND-CUFFS?
I NEVER TOLD YOU, BUT...
...ONE OF THE CUFFS IS BROKEN.

WHAT !?
IT COMES LOOSE, EVEN AFTER THEY'RE LOCKED.
KA-CHIK
ZIP
ZIP OOOH

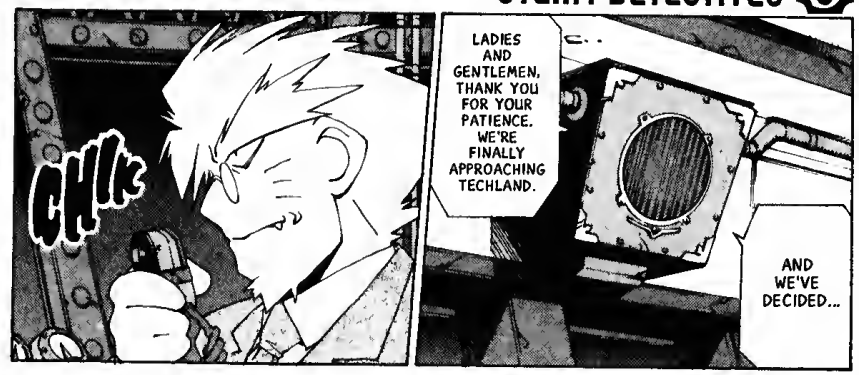
-PHEW-
RRR
RRRR
RRRRR
RRRRR
IF YOU HADN'T USED HIS HAND-CUFFS...

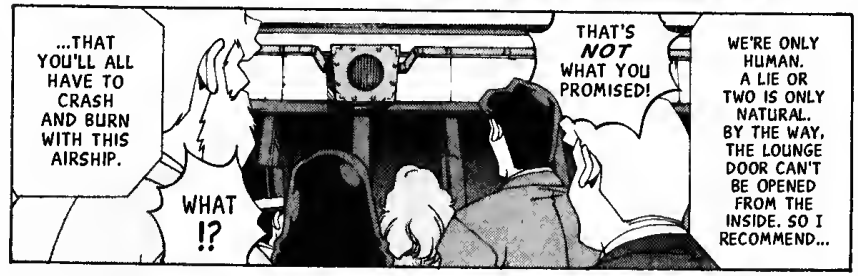
...I WOULD HAVE HAD REAL PROB-LEMS.
YOU LITTLE CREEP !!



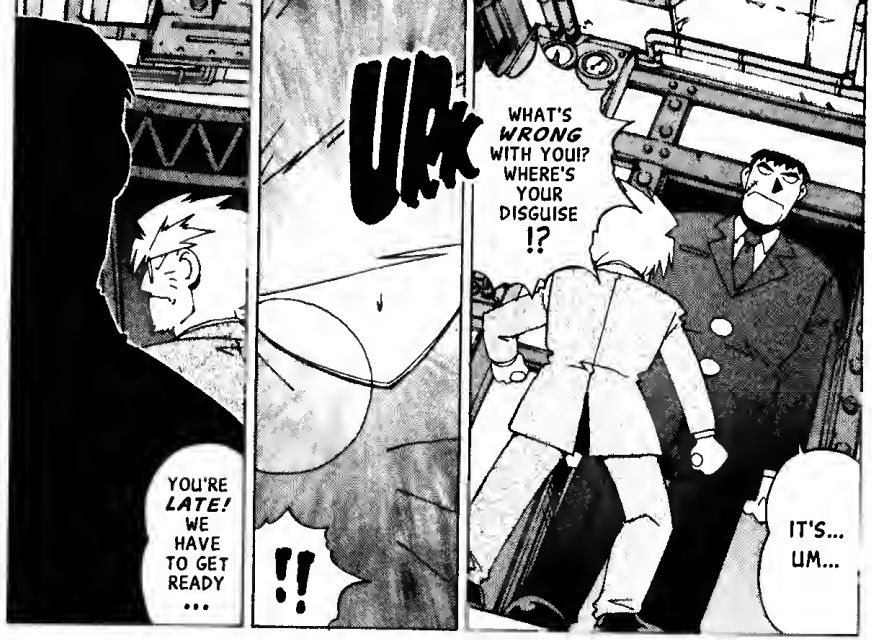
CASE 15, PART 3

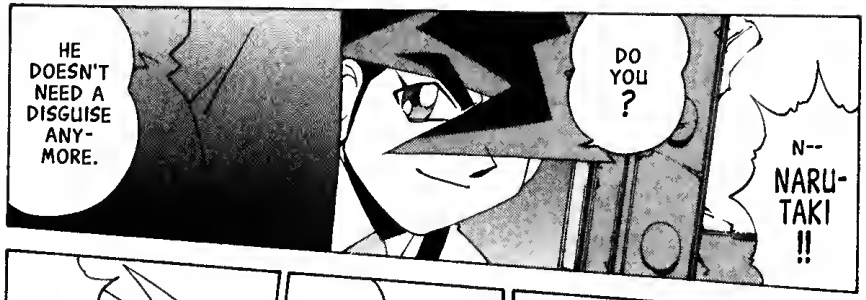
THE COME-BACK KID! NARUTAKI'S LAST CHANCE!!



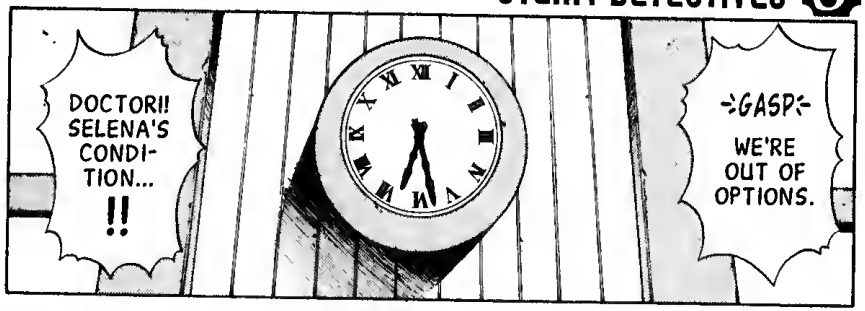

...THAT YOU'LL ALL HAVE TO CRASH AND BURN WITH THIS AIRSHIP.
WHAT !?
THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU PROMISED!
WE'RE ONLY HUMAN. A LIE OR TWO IS ONLY NATURAL. BY THE WAY, THE LOUNGE DOOR CAN'T BE OPENED FROM THE INSIDE. SO I RECOMMEND...

...YOU SAY YOUR PRAYERS.
THE SMALL ONES CAN EXIT VIA THE WINDOW. IT'S UN-LOCKED.
HA HA HA HA!
GR RR RR!
WHAT'LL WE DO !?
WHAT CAN WE DO !?
WE SHOULD HAVE LET NARU-TAKI GO...
NOW YOU SAY THAT...
NARU-TAKI'S ALREADY ...
RRR
RRR

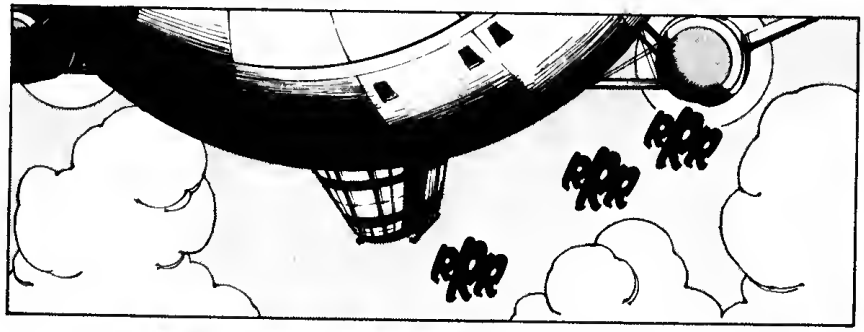

YOU'RE LATE! WE HAVE TO GET READY ...
!!
URK
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU!? WHERE'S YOUR DISGUISE !?
IT'S... UM...

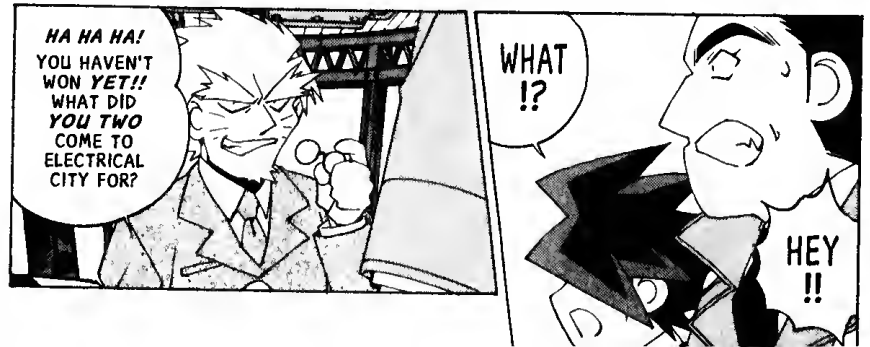

HE DOESN'T NEED A DISGUISE ANY-MORE.
DO YOU ?
N-- NARU-TAKI !!

WHEN DID YOU--
YOU'RE FUGITIVES, WOLF...
...AND CARLOS.
GAK!
WHAT DID YOU STEAL FROM ELECTRICAL CITY?


DOCTOR!! SELENA'S CONDI-TION... !!
-GASP- WE'RE OUT OF OPTIONS.

WITHOUT THAT VACCINE ...
SELENA ...
NARU-TAKI... HURRY !




HA HA HA! YOU HAVEN'T WON YET!! WHAT DID YOU TWO COME TO ELECTRICAL CITY FOR?
WHAT !?
HEY !!

IT WAS THIS, RIGHT?
I'D SAY IT WAS SOME KIND OF MEDICINE. YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULD ALWAYS KEEP YOUR PRECIOUS BELONGINGS CLOSE AT HAND.
HA HA HAAA! LOOKS LIKE A STALE-MATE.
WHAT DO YOU SAY WE TRADE ?
WE'LL EXCHANGE ON THE COUNT OF THREE.
1
2
3
GRBB
GRBB
WHAT'S THAT !?!

KIDS! YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO TRUSTING OF GROWN UPS!
HA HA HAAA! FARE-WELL, NARU-TAKI.
KLIK
THE MAN WHO CHECKED THE BOMBS WAS WEARING MY BADGE. IT'S A RADIO TRANS-MITTER.
HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE THEY ARE!?
KLIK KLIK
WHY WON'T IT-- !?
BRRR
BRRR
I DE-FUSED THE BOMBS.
I QUICKLY FOUND THEM.
OH, NO...
YOU IDIOT! I TOLD YOU NOT TO PLAY WITH TOYS!!

MAYBE NOW YOU WON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE A "KID."
GIVE UP. YOU HAVE NOWHERE TO GO.
ONE PLACE, MAYBE ...
CHAK
BLA MM
BLA MM
BLA MM
BLA MM
PAW
PAW
HA HA HA HA! THAT'S THE END OF THIS SHIP!
BYE NOW!
LOOK WHAT THEY DID! DETECTIVE ONIGAWARA, FREE THE PASSENGERS AND CREW!!
GOT IT!
EVEN IF WE HAVE TO CRASH, WE HAVE TO LAND NEAR STEAM CITY!!

RRR
RRR
RRR
RRR
RRR
RRR
RRR
RRR
WE'RE GOING DOWN FAST!
WHEN THE SHIP HITS THE MOUNTAINS, THAT'S THE END.
LET'S JUMP BEFORE IT DROPS TOO FAR.
THAT'S WHY WE'RE RUNNING! GET OUT YOUR PARA-CHUTE!
I'LL TAKE MY CASE NOW!
RRRR
PLEASE! A LIFE IN STEAM CITY DEPENDS ON IT.
SHE'S VERY IMPORTANT. IF YOU GIVE IT BACK TO ME, I'LL MAKE SURE YOU'RE NOT FOLLOWED. I NEED THAT CASE! PLEASE!!

YOU DON'T *GET IT,* DO YOU, KID? *WE'RE* THE ONES IN CHARGE.
YOU WANT IT? COME AND GET IT.
KCH!
YOU DON'T KNOW *ANY-THING!*
RRR
RRRR
RRRR
CAN YOU DO IT, CAPTAIN !?
NO! WE'RE GOING TO HIT THE MOUN-TAINS!!
DAMN! AND STEAM CITY'S JUST OVER THAT PEAK!
RRRR
RRRR
THE ENGINE'S STOPPED !!
THE HYDROGEN GAS IS LEAKING!! WE'RE LOSING ALTITUDE!!
WE NEED THE PASSENGERS TO THROW THEIR LUGGAGE OVERBOARD!
DUMP THE COAL! WE NEED TO MAINTAIN ALTITUDE!!

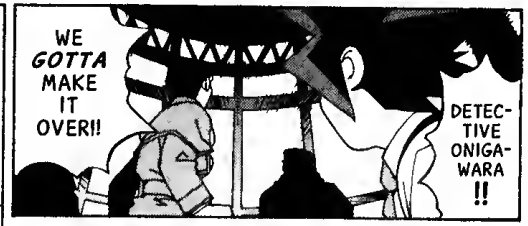
I'M OUT OF TIME !!
HAH!
BLAMM
BLAMM
BLAMM
BLAMM
NO !
HE CAN'T--
BLU
WHAAAM

SHIK
GR RN!
OH, WHO CARES ?
YOU GOT YOUR PRECIOUS CASE! HAPPY NOW ?
AND A FEW OF MY SHOTS FOUND THEIR MARK.
SO WE'LL CALL THE SCORE EVEN. NOW WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY.

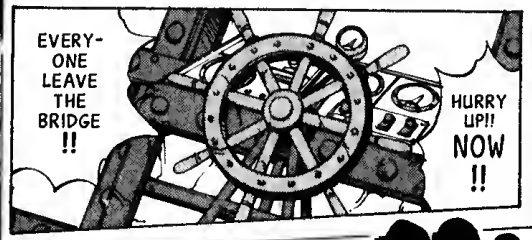
I WISH YOU LUCK.
HA HA HA HA!

HOLD ON, SELENA ...
I'LL BE THERE... SOON.

THAT'S IT! WE'RE GONNA HIT !!


WE GOTTA MAKE IT OVER!!
DETEC-TIVE ONIGA-WARA !!

NARU-TAK!!! WHAT HAP-PENED!?
GET OFF THE BRIDGE! THIS SPOT'S THE MOST VULNER-ABLE!


EVERY-ONE LEAVE THE BRIDGE !!
HURRY UP!! NOW !!

KRRRR
SKRCH
GRRCH
SKRRRCH
SKRRRCH
SKRRRCH
SKRRRCH
GRRCH
KRRNCCH
KRRRCH
KRRRCH
KRRRCH
KRRRCH
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SKRRRCH
SKRRRCH
SKRRRCH
SKRRRCH

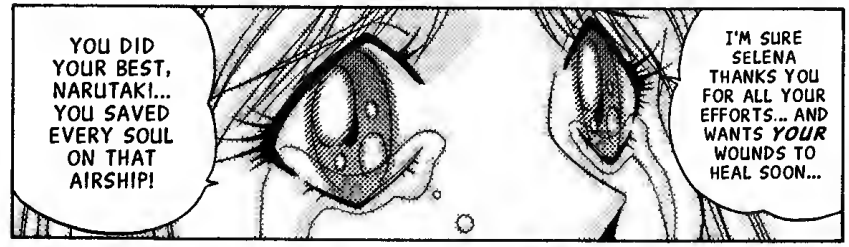
KR RSH
KR RSH
SSHH
SHHHHH
WA SSH
WA SSH
WASSH
WASSH
WASSH
WASSH
RR RNT
RR RNT

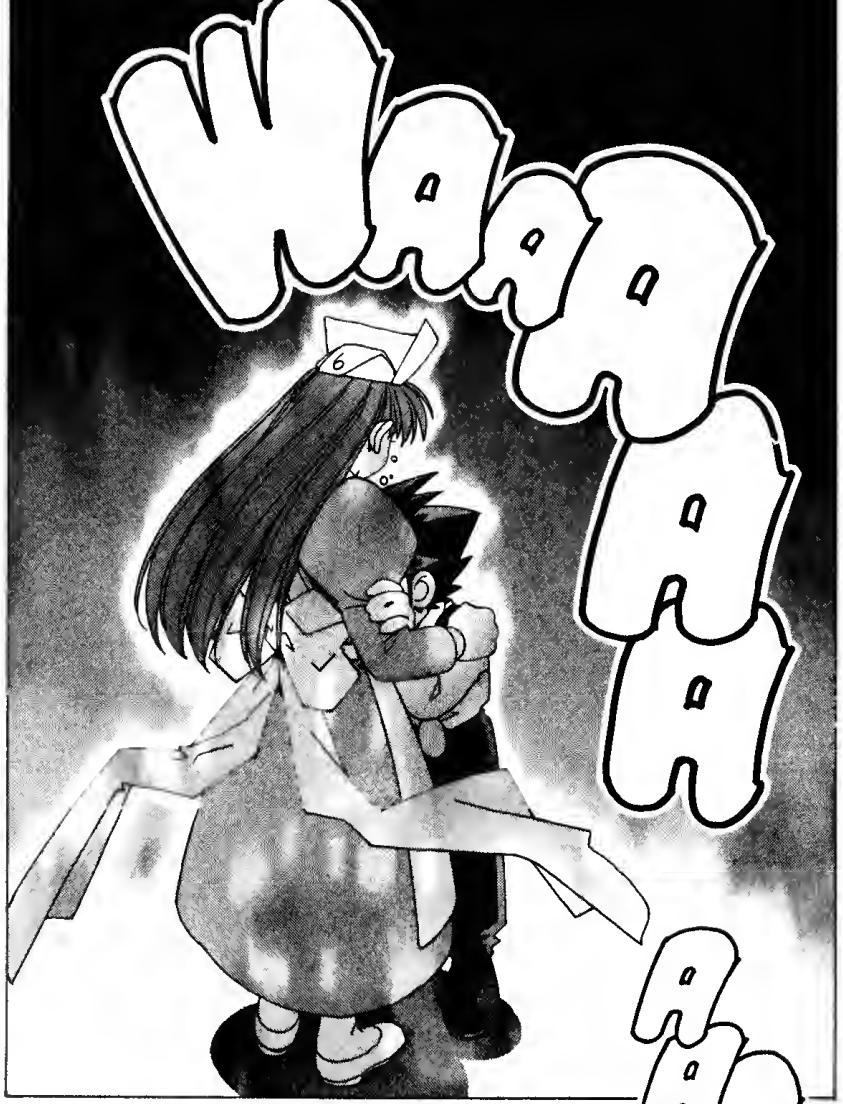
YOU DID IT, NARU-TAKI !!
NARU-TAKI, THANK YOU!!
PLEASE !
PLEASE LET ME THROUGH !!
HURRY, NARU-TAKI !!
WEE HOOO
WEE HOOO
WEE HOOO
WEE HOOO
I HAVE TO MAKE IT ON TIME! I HAVE TO!
HANG IN THERE, SELENA !
WEE HOOO
WEE HOOO
WEE HOOO

KA LU NK
TEN MINUTES AGO...
...SELENA PASSED AWAY.
THANK YOU, NARUTAKI.
SELENA...
SHE FOUGHT AGAINST HER ILLNESS AS LONG AND HARD AS SHE COULD.

JUST LIKE YOU, SHE FOUGHT AND NEVER GAVE UP.
HER LIFE WAS SHORT, AND SHE NEVER REALLY SAW THE OUTSIDE WORLD, BUT I THINK SHE WAS HAPPY. HAPPY BECAUSE SHE MET PEOPLE LIKE LING LING AND YOU, NARUTAKI.

PEOPLE WHO WOULD RISK EVERY-THING TO HELP HER.
THANK YOU SO MUCH ...


YOU DID YOUR BEST, NARUTAKI... YOU SAVED EVERY SOUL ON THAT AIRSHIP!
I'M SURE SELENA THANKS YOU FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS... AND WANTS *YOUR* WOUNDS TO HEAL SOON...


Waaaa

A re-lea-se!
...RIGHT ?
YEAH...
I MEAN...
...WHAT IS THAT... ?
FWUUUU
.....
& Kick The Kitty
!
FW UU
Random Scans